

Jordan Times

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Thatcher pledges to deploy missiles

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, bolstered by her landslide re-election, Tuesday renewed assurances to American Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger that Britain would deploy U.S. cruise nuclear missiles this year. Mr. Weinberger flew in on a two-day visit and met Mrs. Thatcher for the first top-level talks between the Reagan administration and the British government since Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative Party swept back to office with a increased majority 12 days ago. A spokesman for Mrs. Thatcher said she reaffirmed Britain's commitment to deploy cruise missiles later this year as part of a modernised North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) arsenal unless the Soviet Union agreed to curb medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

Ali urges EEC role in Mideast

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamel al-Marsaf said Tuesday he believed the European Economic Community (EEC) could play an effective role in the Middle East conflict. Mr. Ali did not elaborate but Egypt has repeatedly urged the community to assume a role complementary to that played by the United States in seeking a Middle East settlement. Speaking on the eve of a three-day visit to West Germany, Mr. Ali told reporters he would deliver a message from President Hosni Mubarak to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, said discussions would focus on efforts to secure withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon and other relations.

King opens exhibition on Kingdom's founder

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday opened an exhibition at the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bait Foundation) entitled "Pictures on the Life of His Majesty King Abdullah," the founder of the Hashemite Kingdom. (King Abdullah: A centennial salute, page 2) The exhibition is organised in connection with the centenary celebrations of the late King Abdullah. The foundation's president, Nassaruddin Al Assad, received the King, who was accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior officials, and briefed him on the foundation's activities. Mr. Assad also presented the King with a rare hand-written copy of the holy Koran and an emblem of the foundation as well as a book published recently by the foundation on the life of King Abdullah. King Hussein's grandfather.

Cairo expels 20 Palestinian students

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has expelled 20 Palestinian students accused of spreading communist ideas among their Egyptian colleagues. Interior Ministry officials said Tuesday. They said the students, studying at two Cairo universities, were sent Monday to Arab countries of their choice. The officials said they had no further details.

Ghali starts African tour Sunday

CAIRO (R) — The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Boutros Ghali, will leave for Sudan next Sunday at the start of a seven-nation African tour. Foreign Ministry officials said Tuesday. They said that after Sudan he would visit Chad, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola, Congo and Rwanda.

Ehrlich buried

TEL AVIV (R) — Simcha Ehrlich, Israel's deputy prime minister who died on Sunday, was buried Tuesday in a state ceremony outside Tel Aviv. Mr. Ehrlich had open heart surgery in the United States last January and suffered a stroke a week ago.

Iglesias kidnappers sentenced to jail

MADRID (R) — A Spanish court Tuesday sentenced six Basque guerrillas to prison terms of between 18 months and eight years for kidnapping the father of pop singer Julio Iglesias. The six were charged with abducting gynaecologist Dr. Julio Iglesias Fuga outside his Madrid clinic in December 1981. Juan Gregorio Eguizabal Ibarondo was sentenced to eight years for organising the transfer of Dr. Iglesias to a house in a remote northern village where he was held for three weeks before being freed in a dramatic police raid.

Walesa to meet Pope Thursday

WARSAW (R) — Lech Walesa, former Solidarity trade union leader, has been given three days leave from work in a Gdansk shipyard to meet Pope John Paul in Krakow on Thursday, his wife said Tuesday. Mr. Walesa will be accompanied by himself and some of their seven children. Mrs. Walesa said.

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Syrian tanks reportedly open fire on PLO loyalists

Fateh rebellion takes serious turn in Bekaa

BEIRUT (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat sent urgent messages Tuesday to Arab and some other heads of state, accusing Syrian troops of attacking his men in Lebanon during the night and calling for international support.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa said Mr. Arafat had also sent a special message to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad concerning the "serious change of stand" by Syrian forces.

In a dispatch from the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli, where Mr. Arafat spent Tuesday, Wafa said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman had sent urgent messages to the heads of state of Algeria, Saudi Arabia, North and South Yemen, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Morocco, Kuwait and Iraq as well as Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Kibbi.

He sent similar messages to the Leaders of Yugoslavia, Cuba, Ethiopia and Cyprus, as well as to Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as current chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, the agency reported.

"Arafat called for their good efforts to help terminate the current crisis between the Palestinian revolution and Syria," Wafa reported.

"He pointed out that Syrian

of Syrian troops positioned in the Bekaa towards the forces of the Palestinian revolution. This behaviour has been regarded as a serious change in the stand of these forces in regard to Ahmad Jibril's group and the dissident group," the Palestinian news agency reported.

Mr. Jibril heads the Libyan-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) which has been involved in clashes against Arafat supporters in Lebanon.

In the message to Mr. Assad, Mr. Arafat said: "The Palestinian revolution and Syria stand in the same trench of confrontation against the Zionist enemy and American plots."

Earlier, a spokesman for Mr. Arafat said Syrian troops and tanks had helped rebels rout Mr. Arafat's men in eastern Lebanon during the night.

The spokesman, quoted by Wafa, said Mr. Arafat was "very upset" at the Syrian move and refused to return to Damascus unless Syria stopped supporting the rebels.

Speaking in Tripoli, the spokesman described the overnight fighting, in which the rebels claimed to have captured eight PLO positions in eastern Lebanon, as "this sudden escalation and dangerous development."

The Arafat spokesman said the Syrians were giving complete sup-

port, including "all sorts of weapons and assistance," to the rebels.

The overnight fighting caused an all-night meeting in Damascus of the Revolutionary Council of Fateh to break up in disarray.

Mr. Arafat immediately left for Tripoli but was unable to take the direct route, apparently because the rebels secured the main Beirut-Damascus highway in eastern Lebanon. He made a long detour via the Syrian town of Homs.

Describing the fighting, his spokesman said Tuesday: "An armed group of Ahmad Jibril's men and the dissidents last night took position in the Masmara area of the Bekaa Valley, including the customs post controlled by the deterrent (Syrian) forces, in large numbers."

The Syrians were named the "Arab Deterrent Forces" when they were called in to Lebanon by the Arab League in 1976 to help end a civil war.

Mr. Arafat's spokesman added: "They (the PFLP-GC and dissidents) opened fire from Syrian positions towards our forces in Majdal Anjar (near the Syrian border). To our surprise, they then advanced with a number of Syrian tanks towards our positions in Majdal Anjar, these tanks firing on our positions."

(Continued on page 5)



ANTI-NUKES PROTEST: California highway patrolmen move to arrest anti-nuclear demonstrators who Monday blocked roads leading to the Lawrence Livermore Radiation Laboratory 50 kilometres

south of San Francisco. The demonstration was part of a nation-wide protest against nuclear weapons. (Story on page 8)

Bomb found at Palestine Research Centre in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese security forces found a bomb Tuesday on the first floor of the Palestine Research Centre in Beirut, judicial sources said.

Last February a car bomb exploded outside the centre, killing 21 people.

Lebanese authorities Tuesday were continuing to question Sabry Jiryes, director of the centre, and Lieutenant-Colonel Youssef Rajab of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Liaison Committee.

They were detained on Sunday in connection with an explosion in west Beirut on Saturday in which two people in a car were killed.

One of the dead had been employed as a guard at the centre, the only PLO office remaining in Beirut.

In Damascus, the head of the PLO's Information and Cultural Department, Yasser Abd Rabbo, denounced the detention of the two men and accused "Lebanese security agents" of planning the bomb that killed the men in the car.

Israeli doctors continue fasting

TEL AVIV (R) — Leaders of Israel's striking doctors Tuesday said they were disappointed by a new government pay offer aimed at ending a four-month dispute and would continue fasting to press their wage demands.

The new package was drawn up Monday night after Prime Minister Menachem Begin intervened for the first time in the dispute.

"The offer is far below the expectations raised by the treasury yesterday," spokesman Shmuel Friedman said after a meeting with government officials.

The doctors are demanding more details on the package, which radio reports said proposed to increase doctors' wages between 28 to 31 per cent over the next three years.

Swiss security concerns delay Palestine conference

UNITED NATIONS (R) — An international conference in Geneva on Palestinian rights has been postponed from Aug. 16 to Aug. 29, to give the Swiss authorities more time to make security arrangements.

Diplomatic sources said the organising committee, meeting behind closed doors Monday, approved the change after learning that the Swiss would not guarantee the safety of the 1,000 or so participants if the U.N. insisted on the earlier date.

Several heads of state and other likely targets for assassins are expected to attend the 10-day conference. It was to have taken place in Paris, but the French government refused to act as host.

Switzerland was also reluctant but could have refused only with difficulty, if at all, because of its commitment to maintain a U.N. office in Geneva, diplomats said.

A Swiss official discussed the conference with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar last week and told him that mid-August would be the height of the police and military leave period, U.N. officials said.

Ustinov warns Soviet army of NATO-Japan coalition

MOSCOW (R) — Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov warned Soviet officers Tuesday that they might soon be facing a new military coalition of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) countries and Japan.

Speaking to the Communist Party organisation of the Defence Ministry, Marshal Ustinov called for tighter discipline and more political indoctrination following a meeting of the party Central Committee last week.

Mr. Ustinov said the world situation was marked by "a tense and sharp clash between two opposite social systems, two political courses, two ideologies—socialism and capitalism."

In Western countries the "extreme right wing of the monopolist bourgeoisie" had taken power and was seeking to sabotage arms control talks with the Soviet Union and gain military superiority.

Efforts were being made to group together all "anti-socialist forces" under the leadership of the United States, to widen the membership of NATO and strengthen contacts between NATO and Japan.

"The trend is towards the formation of a new military coalition against the USSR," he said.

Mr. Ustinov's remarks about contacts between NATO and Japan followed similar comments in the Soviet press after the Williamsburg summit on the Western economy earlier this month.

The "imperialists" were creating new points of tension all

Gonzalez meets Reagan

WASHINGTON (R) — Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain met President Reagan here Tuesday for talks to reassure the U.S. administration of his political moderation.

Official Spanish sources said the 41-year old socialist prime minister was expected to stress the "positive steps" he had taken in defending U.S. interests since he took office last December at the head of Spain's first leftist government in more than four decades.

His meeting with Mr. Reagan at the White House came on the second day of an official working visit to the United States that ends in New York on Thursday.

It took place after a warning by Mr. Reagan Monday night against what he perceives as growing communist threat in crisis-ridden Central America and against apparent failure of a Spanish initiative to end East-West deadlock in the European security conference in Madrid, neither favourable for Mr. Gonzalez.

The prime minister preceded his U.S. trip with a tour of Latin America in which he strongly criticised U.S. policies.

Mr. Gonzalez termed U.S. policy in the region "fundamentally harmful".

Mr. Nakasone said: "The Foreign Ministry statement said Mr. Vinogradov worked with 42-year-old Soviet engineer Boris Kakinov who was based in Tokyo and was believed by police to be a KGB agent."

Mr. Kakinov left Japan last year and Foreign Ministry officials Tuesday said he would not be permitted to return.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said that Mr. Vinogradov and Mr. Kakinov had approached a senior executive of the unnamed computer company to provide information on its products and later offered to finance him.

Japan expels Soviet 'technology spy'

TOKYO (R) — Japan Tuesday accused a Soviet diplomat of spying on its industrial high technology and said it had asked him to leave the country.

A Foreign Ministry statement said First Secretary Arkadii Vinogradov, 41, who came to Japan in 1980, tried to obtain information on Japanese high technology from a computer firm based in Kanagawa, south of Tokyo.

Mr. Vinogradov left on Sunday. It was the first time Japan had requested a Soviet diplomat to leave for engaging in underhanded activities.

Japan's move was not as harsh as that taken by other Western

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Italian police press ahead with sweep against mafia

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Italian police have pounced again in their huge sweep against the Camorra, the Naples mafia, which has netted 500 arrests including a politician, lawyers, a soccer club president, a television personality, and a nun.

Judicial authorities said police made 10 new arrests in several cities during the night, latest stage of the operation which began on Friday.

Newspaper reports say many arrests follow confessions by two jailed mafiosi who outlined alleged links between the Camorra, local politicians and leftist Red Brigades guerrillas.

Among those arrested so far are

lawyers, the president of Avellino Soccer Club, a television personality suspected of supplying drugs to show business, and a nun accused of running messages.

Also arrested is Christian Democrat politician Giuliano Granata, former mayor of Giugliano in the Naples area suspected of being head of a local branch of the Camorra.

The wave of arrests has aggravated chronic overcrowding in Naples' crumbling Poggioreale Prison, said to be most dangerous jail in Europe, where some 2,000 men from rival clans are now packed into what authorities fear is a potential powder keg.

London to announce new laws to curb trade unions

LONDON (R) — The Conservative government, back in power with enough seats to ensure command of parliament, will outline new laws to curb the powers of Britain's trade unions when the new legislative session begins Wednesday.

A fresh government move on union powers was foreshadowed in the ruling Conservative Party's manifesto during the campaign for the June 9 general election that returned Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's administration with a five-year mandate.

Mrs. Thatcher deliberately retained hardline Conservative Employment Secretary Norman Tebbit

when she shuffled her cabinet after the election so that he could see the job through.

Mrs. Thatcher's first four-year administration had already begun to roll back union powers with laws that ended their immunity from legal suits for damages, weakened agreements that made membership mandatory, and limited secondary so-called sympathy strikes.

At the state opening of the new parliament Wednesday, Queen Elizabeth will announce plans for more union reforms in a speech written by the government, officials said.

King Abdullah: A centennial salute



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Dr. Aïf Al Dabbas

HOME NEWS

Construction of King Abdullah complex to begin imminently

AMMAN (J.T.) — Director-General of the Amman Development Corporation (ADC) Sami Al Rashid said Monday that work on the implementation of the King Abdullah complex is expected to begin soon at a cost of JD 11.5 million.

The ADC has completed the designs of the project which will be established in Wadi Saqrah, and implementation of the project is expected to be completed by the end of 1985. Al Rashid's newspaper quoted Mr. Rashid as saying.

Mr. Rashid said the complex will contain a public park, a children's park, commercial stores, a recreational, cultural and sports centre, administrative offices, a supermarket, restaurants, a car park, and public services buildings.

The site of the complex will be in Wadi Saqrah, on the road leading to the Sports City, and will be built on an area of well over 80 dunums of land, he said.

The ADC intends to make this complex a model centre, containing every conceivable services, in line with ADC policy to develop

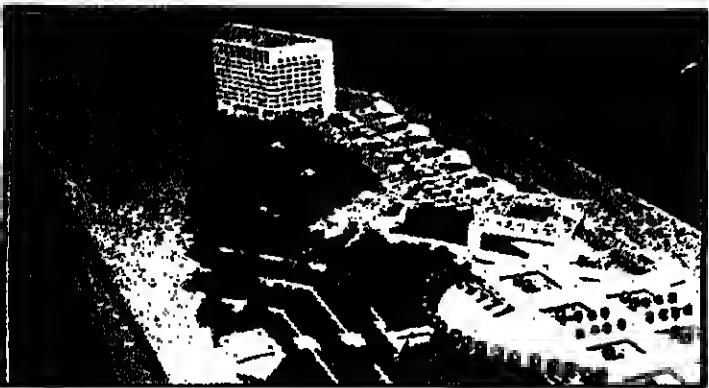


Sami Al Rashid

services in the Amman municipality area.

The project is designed to break even with the hope of a small profit so that the ADC can afford to establish other projects without having to bear an extra financial burden, he said.

Residents of Amman will certainly benefit from the complex because access will be easy, meaning that people will not have to go to downtown Amman for their commercial, banking, postal, cultural, and recreational and other services, he said.



An architects model of the planned King Abdullah complex which is to be constructed imminently in the Wadi Saqrah



Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid (left), Alia President and Chairman of the Board of Directors Ali Ghandour (white suit) and Mayor of Amman

Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh (white kufi) watch the heritage evening staged at the Haya Arts Centre

Cultural heritage evening organised

AMMAN (Petra) — Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, deputising for His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor, opened a cultural evening organised by the Radio Jordan music group and the Alia folklore troupe at the Haya Cultural Centre Monday.

The show included paintings depicting Jordan's popular heritage, traditional and national songs and dances from different parts of the country.

The evening was attended by Alia President and Chairman of the Board of Directors Ali Ghandour, a number of high-ranking officials, and heads of diplomatic missions in Amman.

Asfour, Santoshi discuss Indo-Jordanian trade

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Industry and Trade Walid Asfour received in his office Tuesday the Indian ambassador to Jordan, Pyare Lal Santoshi.

Mr. Asfour and Mr. Santoshi discussed Indo-Jordanian relations in trade and commerce and ways to strengthen them, an Indian embassy spokesman said.

The meeting was within the framework of a new initiative launched by Mr. Santoshi, who started his assignment to Jordan earlier this year, to expand relations with Jordan in all fields, the spokesman added.



Pyare Lal Santoshi

Arab Bank expands abroad

AMMAN — Following the success of its New York branch, Arab Bank plans to open elsewhere in the area. The boom areas of the south and west coast, probably

Los Angeles, are prime candidates. Says Chairman Abdel Majid Shoman: "Since we opened in New York at the beginning of this year, we have done some large transactions, including U.S. contracts with Arab, Latin American and European countries." Arab Bank also has plans to expand into the Far East.

The next venue will be Singapore. Says Shoman: "Singapore is the second centre in the Far East, after Hong Kong." But it is better organised for banking than Hong Kong. "The local banks are very well established and we won't be allowed to compete with them." There are fewer foreign banks in Singapore than in Hong Kong and Shoman predicts good business in trade financing and money market operations. He adds that Singapore gives access to trading with Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand.

Arab Bank also plans to set up a representative office in China to tap the rapid rise of trade between China and the Arab World.

— Arab Banking and Finance

Two-person National Geographic team completes exhaustive survey of Jordan

By Gamini Akmeemana
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At first sight, they are a team of contrasts: she's a young, pretty and rather shy photographer, and he's a rugged, thickset and pipe-smoking travel writer with a white beard. But, for all the visual contrasts, they have been working hard for more than one year to produce a feature about Jordan for National Geographic.

"People assume that the National Geographic dispatches an expedition to produce an article," chuckles Thomas "Haj" Abercrombie during an interview with the Jordan Times. "Well, you can see how big this expedition is." It does sound implausible at first, but only "Haj" Abercrombie and Jody Cobb have been involved in this exhaustive project which covers in film and words the whole of Jordan.

"Of course the size of the country has something to do with the number of National Geographic people involved," says "Haj" Abercrombie. "For example, it would have taken two people years to do that article on China." But, no matter how many, or how few, people are involved, the same amount of care and attention is given to all countries.

It shouldn't have taken one year to complete the Jordan project, but there were a few unexpected snags. But now, after some 300 rolls of colour film, the leg-work is finally complete. Out of several thousand shots, a precious few will be selected at the National Geographic editorial offices for the 3½-page article, pictures averaging one per page.

Though "Haj" Abercrombie is the senior writer at the magazine, having worked more than a quarter-of-a-century for it, he works on the principle that the less words you have, the better. "It's really the photographer who says it all," he insists. "Anyone can



Jody Cobb

churn out a few thousand words. But taking the right sort of photographs is no joke."

Jody Cobb, who'd spent many months in Jordan by herself, leaving quite literally no stone unturned in order to find interesting things to photograph, agrees. Jordan, at least in terms of Hellenistic and Roman ruins, plus the bedouin contribution, is one of the most-photographed countries in the world. It's not easy to take photographs of places from angles no one had thought of before.

"Which is why I concentrated on people," says Jody. "You can find people at whom no one has ever aimed a camera." As she spoke, all the mysterious faces were still on negative film, waiting to be developed thousands of miles away. You won't see them till you open the pages of the National Geographic.



Thomas "Haj" Abercrombie

national Geographic one day, and that won't be till the end of this year at the latest.

Jody's one of the lucky few who have the privilege to work for the National Geographic permanently. She joined the staff eight years ago, and there's been no vacancy ever since. "Once people join, they don't leave," she explains. "It's that kind of job."

In this age of the nondescript jet traveller, Haj Abercrombie is something of a rarity. A photographer as well as writer, he's an eccentric, and disagrees that he's the last of that breed of rugged and romantic Western traveller which seems to fit the Middle Eastern landscape so particularly well.

"I certainly hope I'm not the last," he says with a heavy guffaw. Having become a Muslim, he made the pilgrimage to Mecca and thereafter became known as "Haj". But, contrary to one's expectations, he's spent a great deal of time in parts of the world not even remotely like the Middle East—Alaska, for example.

Chuckling with great satisfaction, he recalls places right out of Jack London. Flying a Cessna 185, he regularly ferried badly-needed supplies to remote Alaskan outposts: "one time I used to fly to this town called Neck-Neck. The landing strip was the main street, and there was a dog which made a big fuss every time I went in to land, or flew away from there."

And one day it did run too near the propeller—and there was dogburger all over the place. Getting back to Jordan, he doesn't find the experiences comparable at all. "People are very formal and polite here, not like the types in Alaska, who were very independent; too independent at times," he says.

The article will spotlight all aspects of life in Jordan, past and present. And why Jordan particularly? "Not particularly," "Haj" Abercrombie says. "We've

done articles on Egypt, for example." By some selective process mysterious to the uninitiated, the magazine patiently probes all kinds of places—countries relatively well known, such as Jordan, and countries relatively little known and inaccessible to the average traveller—such as Mongolia.

When you say "relatively better-known," the emphasis is on the word relatively. A recent poll showed how little the Americans, the French and the Japanese—people who get their information from relatively sophisticated systems and agencies—know about the Middle East. The forthcoming article in the National Geographic will go a long way towards creating the right sort of picture in the minds of many people.

IDB loans increase

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of loans given by the vocational fund of the Industrial Development Bank (IDB) in the last five months totalled 120 amounting to JD 386,500. This compared to the 80 loans amounting to JD 234,000 in the same period last year, officials of the IDB said Monday.

Palestine conference delayed

NEW YORK (Petra) — The committee preparing for the international conference on the Palestinian issue in Geneva decided, at its meeting held in New York Monday evening, to postpone the date of the conference to Aug. 29.

The Swiss government has agreed to host the conference after France withdrew itself as a venue. However, the Swiss government requested that the date of the conference, scheduled for Aug. 6, be postponed to a later date.

King addresses officers on political developments

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday evening explained current Arab and international political developments to senior Armed Forces officers. In the course of his address, he praised their continued willingness "to shoulder their responsibilities in order to achieve the cherished goals of our Arab Nation," while also complimenting them on the protection they provide for the country.

The King was speaking to senior officers in the Armed Forces, the Public Security, the General Intelligence and the Civil Defence at the Royal Court after the Iftar banquet he gave at the Basman Palace Monday evening.

Attending the banquet were Prime Minister and Defence Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khamash, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, directors of the Public Security and General Intelligence and Chief of Staff

Maj.-Gen. Fathi Abu Taleb, Divisional commanders of the Jordanian Armed Forces also attended.

During the meeting, a comprehensive review was made of the advanced level of training attained by the Armed Forces, thus enabling the Jordanian soldier to operate modern, sophisticated weapons.

The officers attending the meeting told His Majesty, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, that practical and applied training and the leadership performance of the Armed Forces officers are keeping

pace with the development in weaponry and military equipment.

They also asserted that conscripts presently doing their military service should be given a full military education to give them a full sense of identity with the armed forces. This, it was said, would help forge a stronger military unit and help the national servicemen fully to serve their country in the future.

His Majesty said that the necessary arrangements had been made to enable the People's Army to begin training citizens in their places of work and students in their schools.

Public Security Director Lt.-Gen. Mohammad Idris gave a briefing on the internal security situation and the future plans to develop the public security department according to the most modern methods with the aim of serving the citizens in the best possible manner.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan attended part of the meeting.



President of the Jordanian Pharmacists Association Nizar Jardaneh Tuesday gives a press conference at the Professional Associations Complex in Amman (Petra photo)

Jardaneh presses for health scheme

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JFA) Nizar Jardaneh Tuesday said that the pharmacy profession has an important role to play in rendering advice to people in a variety of scientific, technical, professional and social fields, as well as giving advice to doctors on the effects of drugs and medicines on their patients.

Addressing a press conference at the Professional Associations Complex, Mr. Jardaneh said the participants in the first Jordanian pharmaceutical conference held on March 12 dealt with several issues involving health services, social security, health insurance, the role of pharmacist in drawing up a comprehensive health insurance scheme and its application in Jordan, and the role of the private sector and the medicinal industry in this field.

The conference recommended the application of the comprehensive health insurance system in Jordan as quickly as possible to keep pace with advanced countries and to ensure that health insurance includes all citizens, he said.

Mr. Jardaneh, in his capacity as chairman of the committee responsible for executing the resolutions of the conference, said these recommendations had been submitted to the relevant authorities for consideration.

He said the conference recommended advanced financing of health services, that is the allocation of a budget for health services and the adoption of the contractual method thus allowing the patient to choose the health institution of his choice, provided that it is accredited by the health insurance corporation.

Mr. Jardaneh said the conferees were unanimous in adopting the idea of establishing an independent institution to be charged with the implementation of the comprehensive health insurance, and that this institution should enjoy administrative and financial independence and be supervised

by an independent board of directors.

People will pay an estimated JD 83 million for medical services during 1983 which is expected to reach JD 120 million by 1985; that is an average of JD 45 per capita or equal to four per cent of the gross national product," he said.

Mr. Jardaneh said the conferees also recommended that 10 per cent of all wages and salaries be used to cover the cost of the health services with one third of this 10 per cent being paid by the employer, the employee and the state.

The plan is of great significance because it aims to implement a comprehensive health insurance to achieve a higher standard of health for all citizens, which is particularly apt at this moment with the present United Nations slogan being "Health for all," he concluded.

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Editor: MOHAMMAD AMAD
Managing Editor: GEORGE S. HAWATMI
Contributing Editor: KASH G. KHOURI
Editorial and advertising offices: Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6714, Amman, Jordan.
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The tough bargain

AN ISRAELI redeployment of forces in Lebanon is a complicated and difficult process, from a military point of view at least, say some experts who doubt Israel will ever opt for it. Any political decision to redeploy would also prove difficult, because much depends on whether the U.S. is willing to occupy vacated Israeli positions north of the Awali River, and whether the Syrians and the Palestinians will let the American Marines take over from the Israelis.

Israel nevertheless seems to be going ahead with preparing complete plans to redeploy and is no doubt making arrangements where its surrogates can stay behind in force in the Shouf mountains and south of Beirut, if and when the Israelis leave.

The Israelis stand to gain from redeploying their army in Lebanon: they would suffer fewer casualties from Lebanese and Palestinian guerrilla attacks against their units; they would have a bigger claim to South Lebanon, strengthen their hold of the territory and put to maximum use its resources; and, they would pave the way for partitioning Lebanon and thus make it much more difficult for the Arabs and the world to refocus attention on the West Bank and Gaza and the Golan Heights.

On balance, the Arab World stands to lose a lot from an Israeli redeployment, and the Arabs' only alternative now seems to be that of fighting hard to prevent such a move.

Plainly, and short of using military force against the Israelis in Lebanon, the Arabs need to make it clear to the Americans that U.S. Marines cannot be allowed to occupy any vacated Israeli positions north of the Awali River or anywhere else. If Washington will not listen, the Arabs must be able to exert pressure on the Americans to reconsider their position, and that is where Saudi — and perhaps other Arab moderate — influence with the U.S. administration comes under the test. There will not be a greater pressure on President Reagan, for instance, than a Saudi threat to establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, and the East bloc, or withdraw Saudi deposits from U.S. banks during a presidential campaign. And Saudi Arabia must be prepared to go that far with the Americans, on the question of Lebanon, if there is no other way, and as this is really one of the last opportunities for the Arabs, if not actually the last, to act in self-defence and stem the Israeli tide which has cost us dearly over the past few decades.

Saudi Arabian diplomacy will have been all the more successful if the kingdom had indeed managed to arrange an Arab-American deal to discuss anew the whole Palestine problem, starting in Lebanon, as Lebanese press reports did suggest the other day when it was said that the Syrian foreign minister is going to Washington next month for important talks. But, barring a success of this projected U.S.-Arab dialogue, Saudi Arabia and all Arabs must be prepared to start talking tough to the Americans, as there might be only one way left for the salvation of the Arab cause.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. money exonerates Israel

WHAT FURTHER rewards could the United States offer Israel at present other than agreeing to cover its balance of payments deficit which now amounts to \$16 billion. This is what The Times of London said Monday when it revealed that the American administration has begun covering \$400 billion out of the total Israeli deficit. What is peculiar is that the new American move comes under the following circumstances:

- Total Israeli rejection of the peace efforts in the occupied areas, including the very American initiative itself.
- The Israeli escalation of repression and terrorism in the occupied Palestinian lands, including the closure of universities and the suppression of liberties there.
- The continuation of the intensive Israeli settlement policy in the occupied Arab territories.
- Israel's aggressive desire to open a Med-Dead canal.

This can only mean that the United States is overtly encouraging Israel to continue its present policies, and no one can doubt this fact. Consequently, the ordinary Arab citizen finds it hard to be convinced that the American administration is serious about reaching a just settlement of the Middle East issue. On the contrary, the Arabs are becoming increasingly convinced that American policy will not bring the area closer to the desired peace, while Washington's efforts will continue to portray the Arabs as the ones who reject peace. Consequently, the international conference which the Soviet Union called for to find a solution to the Middle East issue is the only logical way to reach a settlement because the United States cannot continue to play the role of the supporter of the aggressor and the arbitrator at the same time.

Al Dustour: Palestinians still vulnerable

MONDAY, THE Lebanese judicial authorities issued their findings on the massacres committed against the Palestinian refugees in the Sabra and Shatila camps. The finger of accusation was pointed at Israel and its agents in Lebanon. This in itself is no surprise. There is still a possibility that similar massacres could be committed against Palestinian refugees in Lebanon. Recent reports speak of the killing of Palestinians in refugee camps in southern Lebanon. This has prompted the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) to demand international protection for the Palestinian in southern Lebanon.

Israel, which is persecuting Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, is the same Israel which is calling for the purging of Lebanon from the Palestinians. Meanwhile, the attitude of the Zionist agent Saad Haddad and his forces towards the Palestinians is well known. Consequently, it is extremely naive to think that the Palestinians do not still run the risk of being massacre victims in Lebanon again. The United States government, which is persistently asking the Palestinians to evacuate its forces from the Bekaa Valley, should first give guarantees to the half a million Palestinians in Lebanon that they would not indeed come to any harm in the future.

Andropov firmly in power with few other changes

By Mark Wood
 Reuter

MOSCOW — A week of leadership meetings in Moscow has given the Soviet Union a new President but shown that other Kremlin changes will take place only slowly during the rule of Communist leader Yuri Andropov.

Andropov's election to the post of head of state was the highlight of the successive gatherings of the Party Central Committee and the Supreme Soviet (parliament) and showed that he has consolidated his power.

But Western predictions of a major reshuffle of top posts and the introduction of economic reforms were not fulfilled.

Instead, the meetings demonstrated that expectations of sweeping change are out of place and that Andropov will move only step by step to achieve his aim of a more vigorous and efficient economy staffed by a disciplined work force.

The predictions were based partly on rumours from Soviet officials and partly on the assumption that the party chief would use the gatherings to promote supporters

into key positions and put his own stamp on Kremlin policy.

As it turned out, only very limited changes were made. Leningrad regional Communist leader Grigoriy Romanov was moved to Moscow to take up a post as one of 10 central committee secretaries.

Mikhail Solomentsev, who is premier of the Russian Federation, was put in charge of the Party Control Commission and Vitaly Vorotnikov, who is expected to replace Solomentsev as Russian premier, was made a candidate member of the politburo.

Andropov's failure to get any new full politburo members elected demonstrated that although he was strong enough to seize the presidency he still faces opposition on some issues within the Kremlin leadership.

Some Western diplomats said they did not expect that situation to change in the near future and predicted that Andropov, who is already 69, would never be able to accumulate enough power to overcome resistance to some of his plans.

Two talk of two separate factions in the politburo is probably wrong. There are probably different power line-ups on different

issues. But what is clear is that Andropov cannot always be sure he can get his own way," one diplomat said.

Although it is difficult to assess precisely what the current policy differences might be, there are signs that they centre on Andropov's declared wish to shake up the state apparatus and put competent technocrats in important posts.

Diplomats say opposition to this comes from men like Konstantin Chernenko, the number two, who are not only keen to defend their allies but also fearful of weakening party control over the bureaucracy and economy.

In policy terms last week's meetings brought little that was new or unexpected. Both Chernenko and Andropov announced a harder policy line on culture and called for improved ideological work to combat Western influence, especially among the young.

But they did not make any suggestions for the economy beyond calling for more hard work and suggesting that more should be done to speed up mechanisation.

Some diplomats said Western predictions that Andropov would

try to introduce radical reforms were based on a misunderstanding of the way the Soviet economy works.

One must not forget this is an enormous country with a huge and inefficient bureaucracy. Andropov could not move any faster to change things even if he wanted to," one diplomat commented.

He said the leadership appeared to be concentrating on improving the agricultural system through organisational reform and would not be likely to take any steps to tackle industry until the farm programme was well under way.

Although last week's meetings provided only meagre pickings for Western Kremlinologists, they did give some new insights into the current power constellation and a few pointers for the future.

One significant event was the major policy speech given by Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko to the Supreme Soviet. Such addresses have been extremely rare in the past.

Gromyko's central role at the meeting underlined the impression amongst Western analysts that he has assumed a strong position in the leadership and is probably one of the three or four men

closest to Andropov.

But it also showed that Andropov is fashioning more of a team leadership than was the case under his predecessor, Leonid Brezhnev, who always made all key policy statements himself.

Another important event was the promotion of Romanov, 65, to a party secretary's post.

Romanov now becomes one of the most powerful men in the Kremlin as only three others — Andropov, Chernenko and agriculture chief Mikhail Gorbachov — combine the posts of politburo member and central committee secretary.

Just how influential he will be depends on the area for which he is given responsibility, and that has not been made public.

Romanov has gained a reputation as a blunt, aggressive and ambitious man. Western diplomats said they were surprised that Andropov had moved him to Moscow as he might be expected to start building a power base for his own bid for the leadership.

Some speculated that the move might even have been against Andropov's wishes.

But all agree he will now be one of the most prominent members of the leadership and his hardline anti-Western views could exert a major influence on foreign policy.

Diplomats said further substantial changes in the leadership were now likely to come only through the death or chronic ill health of the present members.

Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov is already 78 and four other members of the 11-man politburo are also over 70.

Another factor which will play a crucial role in deciding whether Andropov can strengthen his grip on power and force through his ideas is the state of his health.

In his public appearances over the past two weeks Andropov has looked very frail and at times needed support when walking. Sitting in the Supreme Soviet last week he looked pale and his hands were shaking badly.

Western visitors who have spoken to him say Andropov is mentally highly alert. But the sharp deterioration in his physical condition over the past few months has inevitably raised questions about just how long he will be able to stay in control.



Chicago Tribune

LETTERS

An amount to talk about?

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter in support of Ms. Randa Habib's article headlined "price for education" (Jordan Times, June 16-17).

Although Ms. Habib did not mention the name of the school, it was not hard to guess that it was the same as that which Mrs. Marina Rashid (Letter to the editor, Jordan Times, June 20) taught at.

It is unfair to say that Ms. Habib "forgot to mention the academic programme" as she started her article by saying that she admires that school. Its location, being far from the pollution of the city, its teaching system and its ambitions, etc.

You can hardly say more in an article.

Ms. Habib's article on the price of education is reflecting the concern of many people on that matter.

We are not putting in doubt the high educational level of that school, but the quick raise of the cost of teaching.

JD 1,100 for a child of six plus uniforms, (which I am told can reach another JD 150) plus transportation fees... This is an amount to talk about.

The ladies that Mrs. Rashid refers to, who spend JD 200 on leather boots etc., are certainly not those concerned by the rise of that school's fees.

Many people at the price of very high sacrifices put their children in good schools, it is unfair to squeeze them more.

Yes, Mrs. Rashid, an extra JD 500 deposit and an extra JD 100 on school fees could mean a lot to many people.

I ask only one question: What does any school expect a child of six to break in nine months that will cost JD 500?

Concerning Mrs. Rashid's point about "the deposit which I suppose will cover damages caused by the child".

(Mrs) Itissam F. Kaddour
 Amman

Western sanctions depend on Pope's visit

By Sidney Weiland
 Reuter

LONDON — Western governments are preparing to ease sanctions against Poland but only if Pope John Paul's visit there helps lead to greater internal harmony.

While the Reagan administration remains highly cautious, European NATO allies hope the eight-day papal tour will pass peacefully and will be followed by further relaxation of military rules.

Senior diplomats in NATO capitals say they will watch the visit closely, and that governments will be ready to move fairly rapidly if genuine signs of progress emerge.

If Western hopes are borne out, there could be talks soon on easing repayment terms for Poland's crushing official debts of \$13.7 billion, with some prospect of additional money to help rebuild Warsaw's shattered economy.

Negotiations on rescheduling

the debts were frozen by the United States and other NATO governments when Communist authorities imposed martial law in December 1981.

Although martial law was suspended after 12 months, the West decided no many restrictions on civil and trade union rights remained in force to justify a change in allied policy.

Now, officials say, Poland has a chance to lift many of the continuing curbs, building on the public euphoria expected by the Pope's second visit to his homeland in four years.

Military ruler Wojciech Jaruzelski declared martial law to stifle Poland's powerful free trade union Solidarity, formed in 1980 at a time of deep national unrest.

Officials say the Pope's visit effectively confers legitimacy on Jaruzelski, and that the regime, if all goes well, could be expected to make some answering concessions.

The freezing of Poland's debts to other governments has proved a

double-edged weapon.

While it has been impossible for Poland to negotiate new loans or to phase-out repayments, harming recovery, it has also deprived Western governments of interest and cash repayments.

London financial sources estimate West Germany, the U.S., France, Britain and other countries are owed about \$1.5 billion in interest for 1982 and the first half of this year.

Private Western banks, owed less than half of Poland's total hard currency debt of about \$26 billion, have negotiated deferred repayment terms and have received regular interest instalments from Warsaw. Talks on 1983 defaults are under way.

"There is a growing feeling that governments, like the banks, ought to get involved in rescheduling," a British official said. "The question is when."

Apart from the freeze on debts, NATO blocked commercial credits except for food and cut scientific and other exchanges.

President Reagan halted credit insurance, virtually paralysing Poland's embryonic poultry industry, and closed U.S. airports and fishing grounds to Polish planes and trawlers.

When Solidarity was outlawed in October 1982, the U.S. raised trade tariffs on Polish goods.

Holding Moscow primarily responsible for the Polish crackdown, Reagan also halted Soviet flights to the U.S., barred the sale of high technology goods to the Soviet Union, and suspended negotiations on a new U.S.-Soviet grain agreement.

In another move against Moscow, the 10-nation European Community halted some imports from the Soviet Union.

Many Western officials, especially in Europe, have come to question the value of the sanctions, arguing that in some cases they retarded economic revival in Poland, making it harder for the authorities to dismantle the military regime.

The U.S. last month dropped its ban on negotiating a long-term agreement for grain sales to Moscow, and talks on a new accord began two weeks ago. Other sanctions against Moscow are expected to continue for some time.

U.S. and other Western officials have now signalled readiness to "explore" the lifting of other Polish sanctions, with each step likely to be conditional on matching actions by the Jaruzelski regime towards greater relaxation.

But they say almost everything depends on what happens during the Pope's visit and in its immediate aftermath.

Western attitudes would batten if there were Solidarity demonstrations and if Polish police responded violently.

The West is also watching to see if harassment increases against Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, who fears he may be prevented from meeting the Pope.

Poland's Interior Ministry warned Tuesday that "resolute action"

would be taken against attempts to disrupt police order during the tour. Underground Solidarity leaders however have urged supporters not to demonstrate.

The Pope has said he hopes the visit "may serve reconciliation and peace." Polish Deputy Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski said it could help create conditions for a complete lifting of martial law.

NATO foreign ministers, at a meeting in Paris, held out the prospect of "more normal trade and economic cooperation" with Poland, provided there was progress towards national reconciliation.

But they insisted this required the release of political prisoners, the establishment of civil rights and the restoration of workers' rights to have trade unions of their own choice.

They also called on the Soviet Union "to cease its pressure on Poland so as not to impede the efforts of the Polish people for national renewal and reform."

Italy's Christian Democrats woo middle class voters

By Andrew Hurst
 Reuter

ROME — The Christian Democrats, for years Italy's leading political force, are making a determined effort to woo apathetic middle-class voters with an image of new dynamism for the general election on June 26 and 27.

They are fielding a wide array of candidates not previously linked with the party, including film director Franco Zeffirelli and former Governor of the Bank of Italy Guido Carli, in a bid to reverse declining support in many Italian cities.

Under their forceful new party secretary, Ciriaco De Mita, the Christian Democrats are calling for a clean-up of corruption and inefficiency in government and reduced public spending to rein in inflation, currently running at over 16 per cent.

Party strategists see their main adversary as the thriving leader of the Socialist Party, Bettino Craxi, who forced early elections

when he withdrew support from the four-party coalition of Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani early last month.

But they also see signs of mounting disenchantment among voters, many of whom they fear will spoil their ballot papers or simply not vote at all.

The Christian Democrats won more than 38 per cent of the vote in elections in 1979, when they held on to their position as Italy's largest party and widened their lead over the opposition Communists who polled just over 30 per cent.

But the party suffered a dramatic loss of confidence after a series of scandals culminating in the exposure in 1981 of an illegal Masonic lodge, which forced the resignation of the government of Arnaldo Forlani.

Among the lodge's members were prominent political and military figures, including the heads of Italy's secret service and defence staff.

Under intense pressure from their main coalition partners, the

Socialists, the Christian Democrats agreed that the leader of the small Republican Party, Giovanni Spadolini, should succeed Forlani as prime minister.

Spadolini was the first prime minister since 1946 not to be drawn from Christian Democratic Party ranks and many speculated that it would not be long before the increasingly popular Socialists, claimed the premiership for themselves.

The mood among the Christian Democrats turned to alarm when the Socialist Party almost doubled its share of the vote in municipal elections in 1981 at Bari, a major southern seaport and a traditional Christian Democrat stronghold.

"The result of the Bari election, followed by electoral setbacks in Milan and Genoa, showed the Christian Democrats were fast losing middle class support in the cities and in the modern, productive parts of the country," said Orazio Petrucci, a political science professor at Salerno University.

"The Christian Democrats were increasingly relying on the more

backward areas of Italy, particularly the undeveloped south where voters are tied to the party by patronage, for support as the Socialists eroded their electorate in the cities," he added.

The election of Ciriaco De Mita, a tough no-nonsense lawyer from the southern town of Avellino, as party secretary in May 1982, was seen as a major turning point in the party's fortunes.

The party secretary traditionally has no direct involvement in government but plays a crucial role in mapping out policy and making key party appointments.

De Mita built up a team of bright young advisers drawn from outside the party machine, set about streamlining its creaking organisation and warned that if the party did not clean up its corrupt image it risked being ousted from government.

Last November, the Christian Democrats reasserted their traditional ascendancy in Italian politics when Amintore Fanfani, an elder statesman in the party, suc-

ceeded Spadolini as prime minister after a brief government crisis.

Many political commentators saw Fanfani's appointment as the first major result of De Mita's determined style of leadership and also detected a rightward shift in the party's traditionally centrist stance.

De Mita has seized the opportunity offered by the election to speed up his renewal of the party. More than one-fifth of the party's outgoing members are not standing for re-election and many new candidates are drawn from big business, trade unions and the universities.

De Mita's efforts at reform have met with resistance, notably in the south. In Calabria, party supporters demonstrated when De Mita tried to replace a local senator with a northern trade unionist, forcing the party leader to back down.

The Socialists, with their eyes on the prime ministership, fear the Christian Democrats are looking

for big enough gains in the election to exclude them from government by forming an alliance with the small centre parties.

An opinion poll published last month predicted big gains for the centre parties, including the Republicans, and suggested that such an alliance might in theory be possible.

But De Mita has strenuously denied that he wants to abandon the centre-left formula of government with the Socialists although party strategists admit they would like to see the ambitious Socialists "taught a lesson".

Many commentators say the real test for the Christian Democrats will come after the elections when, assuming they maintain their position as the country's leading political force, they will have to put words into action.

"So far De Mita has given his party a new image. But after the elections we shall see if he can deliver on his promise of a more efficient and decisive approach to government," Petrucci said.

Okavango's survival threatened

By Roy Laishley

MAUN, Botswana — The Okavango Delta in the far northwest of this country is yesterday's Africa: A vast wilderness of wildlife untroubled by farmers and tourists. Its remoteness — crouched against the Caprivi Strip, near war-torn southern Angola, and 1,000 kilometres of paved road and dirt track from the national capital Gaborone in the far southeast — protects it from the sort of pressure that has ruined so much of Kenya's wild lands.

The 16,000 sq kilometre Okavango area is a myriad of water channels, lagoons, swamps and rich grasslands. The Okavango River, southern Africa's third largest, flows from Angola's uplands, and the tiny Botletle River flows out to the south.

In between can be found some of Africa's last great herds of big antelope and zebra, smaller but majestic herds of elephant and a variety of bird life. The fish eagle, one of Africa's most threatened

species, is a common sight fishing the streams and lagoons.

But this natural treasure is threatened. Much of the rest of Botswana is parched and drought-prone, and planners are eyeing the Okavango's huge water resources. Each year some 11,000 million cubic metres of water flow into the region and only 300 million flow out. The rest is lost to evaporation and drainage.

Over the years many schemes have been discussed to tap this water for agriculture and general development. The Delta's remoteness has kept all such plans on the drawing board.

Now Botswana is trying to diversify its exports by developing its coal resources. A feasibility study is under way for a mine in the south which could have the country exporting 10-15,000 tonnes of coal a year by the end of the decade. But the coal is high in sulphur, and would have to be washed to be sold. The nearest source of water are rivers bordering

South Africa, and using such water would raise political problems.

Royal Dutch Shell is one of the multinational companies studying the venture. Planners are considering tapping the Okavango's water to wash the coal.

In between the mine site and the Okavango are the thousands of cattle farmers who provide much of the nation's livelihood. Beef is the third biggest export after diamonds and copper-nickel minerals. Only 11,000 people now live in the Okavango, but already herders are beginning to nibble at its edges.

A bright new abattoir of the Botswana Meat Commission in the town of Maun on the edge of the region, opened earlier this year, symbolises the pressure on the area. Flying over the region's southern edge, one can almost see the cattle herds moving in.

The government is caught between the powerful cattle lobby and its desire to preserve the Okavango's natural state. Fences will separate wildlife from cows, and planned sugar and rice plantations are being kept to the perimeter of the region.

But to survive in something like its present state, the Delta needs room to breathe. Game wardens who have worked in the area over the past 15 to 20 years say game herds have already declined sharply. The proposed fences would strangle the region, stopping the huge game migrations, they claim.

Fences to the southeast in the Makgadikgadi Pans Game Reserve have blocked the traditional migration routes there, disrupting the ecology of the area and diminishing the herds.

Botswana has devoted more of its vast land to game and nature reserves than most other nations. But it has virtually no tourist policy. However, in March, Commerce and Industry Minister M.P. Nwako promised "major decisions" would be taken soon to develop the country's wildlife and natural resources.

The tourist industry is being expanded. New hotels are being built in the capital and the only one in Maun improved. Maun Airport is being expanded; and Air Botswana, which links Botswana with South Africa and Zimbabwe, has scheduled a four-times-a-week service here starting in June.

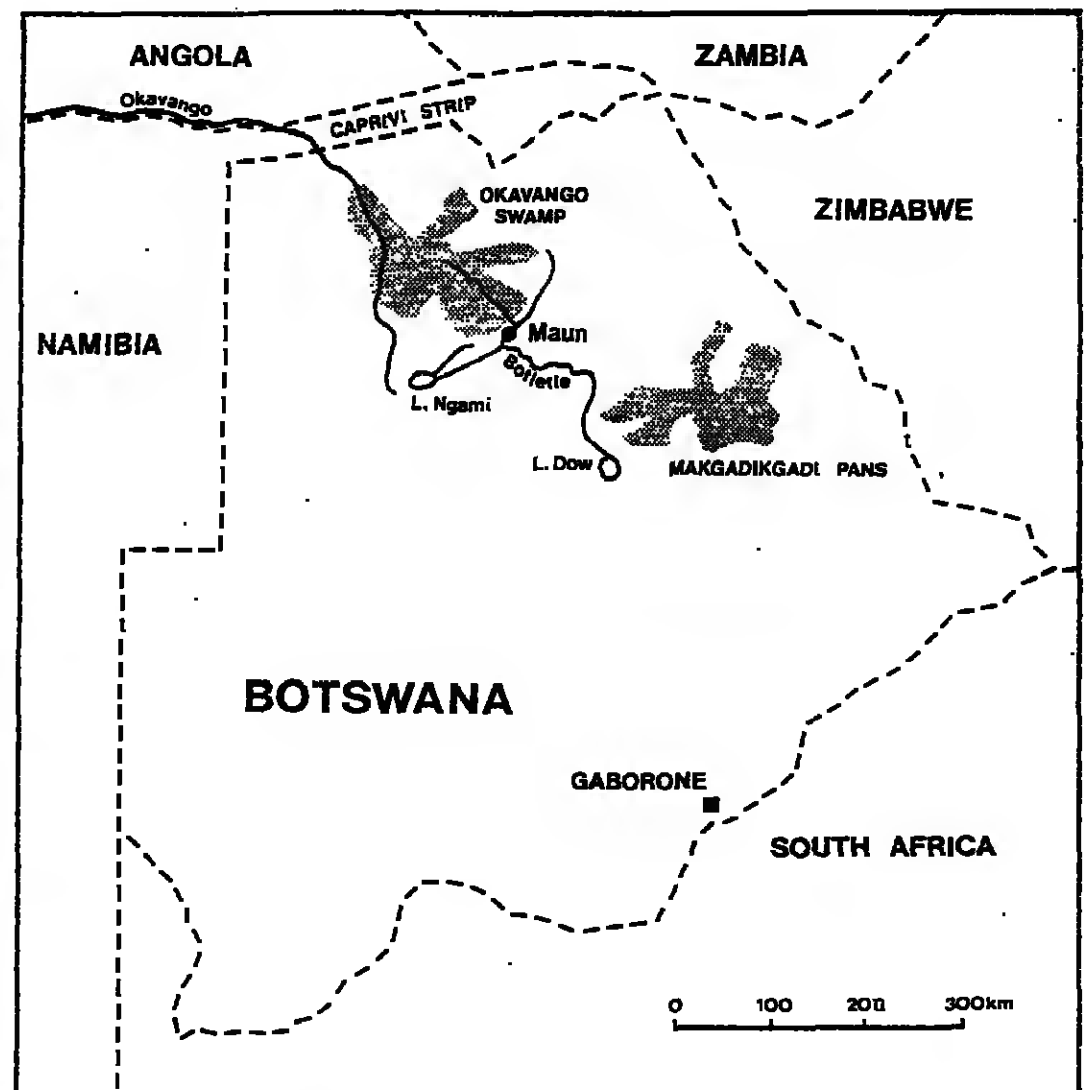
Several small "safari" firms already operate in the delta itself. The government has a big stake in the largest, gametrackers, which offers luxury game viewing trips through three plush camps in the heart of the delta.

The officials are caught on the horns of a dilemma. On the one hand, they want to improve planning, marketing and communications to attract more than the current 10,000 tourists to Botswana a year.

But on the other hand, "we are in the business of selling remoteness and wildness", said Jan Bols of the Botswana Development Corporation. "We do not intend to go down Kenya's path."

Carefully controlled tourist development could provide crucial protection to secure the future of Okavango, one of the last havens of African wildlife.

— Earthscan feature



King Abdullah: A centennial salute

(Continued from page 2)

the flow of events. Britain was the mandatory in Jordan up to 1946. After that Britain helped subsidise Jordan's budget, maintain its army and provide officers to command it. Jordan lacked sufficient resources to stand alone. During the 1948 war, the Arab League states pledged two million pounds to support the Jordanian army; in reality only one eighth of the amount was paid.

At the time, some Arab governments sought to have the Jordan army placed under the command of Arab officers, but the King declined to make a hasty move. The connection with Britain, an asset in a way, also had its drawbacks and, sometimes, its inherent evils.

On the personal side, King Abdullah was intensely human, with special qualities which place him in a distinguished position among his fellow Arab contemporaries. He was endowed with two of the most valued characteristics among Arabs: Courage and generosity.

His personal courage, proven in the battles and wars he participated in, was much more apparent in voicing his political views to his people and to fellow rulers. His moral courage antagonised many of his contemporaries, who preferred to hear false and deceiving views that eased their fears.

During those difficult times, many Arabs preferred to listen to leaders who raised empty hopes, based on imagination rather than on solid facts. Abdullah's views, gave his adversaries, time and again, food for propaganda against him. This was manifested in his call for unity — particularly with Syria — and in connection with his suggestions on a possible settlement to the question of Palestine. He initially criticised the Arab League charter as insufficient for real and binding unity.

His generosity knew no bounds. King Abdullah spent money as fast as it came in, but little of it on himself. To give those who sought his help, he often went into debt.

He lived a modest life, without possessions, and when he died he was in debt. Once, on the eve of a religious holiday, two of his office employees told him they had no money to buy new clothing for their children. Because he had no available money to give, he pointed to the carpet in his office and told them to take it and sell it. He was happy to know the next day that the children had new clothes and a good portion of sweets for the holiday.

He was kind, intelligent, quick of thought, liked the company of people and had great personal charm.

His days began early, before dawn. He would take a bath, read the Holy Quran, say his prayers and then have a light breakfast. After a short walk to inspect his horses, of which he was very fond, he went to the office to conduct his official work and to receive visitors.

On most days, he used to conclude his official work by the time government employees were starting their work day.

He liked company. One of the official functions of the palace staff was to be present with him for prayers and for meals. Once, when one of the officials, was absent from breakfast for two consecutive days, he received a formal letter from the Chief of the Royal Cabinet reminding him of his duty to attend breakfast in the company of His Majesty.

Sometimes, noticing there were but few persons present for a meal, King Abdullah would have a courier telephone other personalities to invite them at short notice to join His Majesty for the meal.

He was deeply religious, but without fanaticism. Daily he prayed, as all devout Muslims, five times, whether at home or in a foreign country. He was a fatalist, believing deeply that all was decreed by the will of God.

Sir Alec Kirkbride, the British ambassador in Jordan, once pleaded with him not to go to Jerusalem so often. Abdullah replied: "My dear man, until my time comes no one can harm me; and when it does come, no one can guard me."

The day before he was assassinated, the American Consul in Amman pleaded with him not to go to Jerusalem, telling him there were rumours of a plot brewing against him. The King answered with a verse from the Quran: "Say: Nothing will befall us except that which God has ordained. He is our Guardian."

King Abdullah was conservative by nature, particularly in regard to Arab traditions and values. He respected women, but considered they belonged in the home, taking care of their families and raising their children. Women should not meddle in politics, participate in wars or hold administrative positions. Nor did he approve of women wearing trousers, arms or legs, or wearing trousers.

He considered himself father to all Jordanians and his relationship with them was based on leniency and liberality. Those who opposed his policies and left the country as a sign of protest were given more than one chance to return in freedom. Most eventually saw his point of view and left the opposition to become strong supporters.

In one case, a sheikh was exiled to a nearby town for committing an offence against the Amir. A week or so later, a number of sheikhs came one morning to plead for his release. The Amir thought that the man concerned should remain where he was for some more time and told his visitors so. When they rose to leave, the Amir asked: "Where are you going?" They answered that they intended to visit the exiled sheikh. Pausing for a minute, the Amir then said: "Go in peace, but be sure to come back with that sheikh for lunch."

King Abdullah's temper was quick, but as quickly his anger soon passed. Light of heart and not the worrily type, he enjoyed hearing a joke or relating one. Once, as the guest of King George VI, a general at the table with a large moustache caught his imagination.

Turning to his neighbour Abdullah whispered in Arabic with a solemn face: "Do you think that moustache will affect the taste of the soup?"

He valued human relations and

always sought to build friendships and mutual confidence. He felt great shock when someone who was in his confidence and whom he considered a friend betrayed his trust.

Many people have known Abdullah's great personal charm. On his first visit to Ankara in 1937, he was received by Ataturk, formally and correctly, but with no show of friendly warmth. In no more than an hour or so later, Ataturk had fallen under the spell of the Amir's charming manners, sparkling wit and the intelligence of his conversation. All present were surprised by the sudden change in Ataturk; he was all smiles. Arm in arm, the two leaders were talking intimately and warmly, as if they had known each other for years.

Cultured and well read, King Abdullah was a writer and poet. His essays and poems appeared in periodicals and newspapers in Palestine, Egypt and Jordan. His memoirs was the first book of its kind to be written personally by an Arab head of state (published first in Arabic in 1945, then in English in 1950).

His deep interest in national culture prompted him to write a book for school children entitled "Who Am I?". It provides the young student with basic facts about the Arab nation, the religion of Islam and how it spread, the Khilafat and the great Arab states.

He wrote a short book about the history of Islam and another one on the pure-bred horses of Arabia. As a man of literature, he had wide contacts with the poets and writers of other Arab countries and actively encouraged Jordanian writers.

His writing was highly eloquent in style; he personally wrote (or dictated) all his letters and speeches, which were admired for their rich expression and lucidity.

King Abdullah stands as one of the great Arab contemporaries of our age. Though he ruled a small country, his wisdom, pragmatism and vision left a strong imprint on the course of events in the Arab Middle East.

— Jordan magazine
Suleiman Mousa is a noted Jordanian historian and scholar and the author of a number of books.

Fateh revolt takes serious turn

(Continued from page 1)

"Our men were careful not to return the tanks' fire so as not to give the opportunity for a clash with Syrian forces," he said.

"But the tanks continued to shell us and advance on Majdal Anjar, together with the armed men and took control of the area and the village."

The spokesman said pro-Arafat forces were now blocked from the Beirut-Damascus highway leading to Lebanon and the Bekaa. "The Syrian forces have also arrested the commander of the Yarmouk Brigade," he added.

"The Palestinian revolution hopes the deterrent (Syrian) forces will be cautious about the situation, particularly after this sudden change by them towards our forces," the spokesman said.

Earlier on Tuesday, the Syrian news agency SANA, for the first time, carried the full text of a statement by the rebels in which they said they had captured eight Fateh positions.

SANA said the statement had been issued by "a responsible information source on behalf of (Fateh rebel leader) Abu Yusa".

It was the first time the official Syrian agency had carried any statement by either side since the Fateh revolt erupted two months ago.

In Beirut, diplomats said official Syrian publication of the rebels' statement appeared to give them moral support.

News of the overnight fighting broke as Mr. Arafat held an all-night meeting with 55 members of Fateh's 71-member Revolutionary Council in Damascus. The meeting apparently made no progress towards ending the revolt.

Lebanon's right-wing Falangist radio said Libyan troops and the Libyan-backed PFLP-GC had turned on the Arafat loyalists. Joining its correspondent in the Bekaa, the radio said the Libyans, who have tanks, were joined by fighters of the PFLP-GC.

Syria has an estimated 40,000 men in Lebanon, but the Falangist radio said they only reinforced their positions in the area and did not join in the fighting.

Mr. Arafat's military deputy, Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), told reporters in Damascus that Syrian troops had moved in tanks around the highway and set up roadblocks.

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Abu Jihad said the all-night Fateh meeting ended in deadlock despite "efforts by Palestinian, Arab and international leaders."

He said about 55 members of the 71-man Revolutionary Council were at the session in Mr. Arafat's heavily-guarded office in downtown Damascus.

The meeting decided to set up committees to bring in reforms, a move PLO sources saw as a concession to rebel demands for sweeping changes and a radical stance towards Israel.

Abu Jihad said the smaller, 13-member Central Committee of Fateh would continue to seek ways to heal the rift.

He said the Revolutionary Council had set up specialised committees with the task of introducing reforms in the guerrilla group.

He gave no details. The setting up of such committees seemed to be a concession towards the rebels, who are demanding sweeping reforms and a radical stance against Israel.

PLO sources, however, said such concessions at this stage seemed academic while rebellion was still rife and fighting continued.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia has appealed to the Palestinian guerrillas to settle their differences, according to the Saudi Press Agency quoting the monarch at a cabinet meeting Monday night.

Six killed in Tripoli

(Continued from page 1)

the streets, which were almost deserted. Over 40 people have been killed in Tripoli in the last week.

A leftist radio station said a bomb attack near Beirut Tuesday had caused a number of Israeli casualties. The Palestinian news agency Wafa said the bomb had been planted by "fighters of the Lebanese-Palestinian joint resistance forces."

An Israeli spokesman said Israeli troops had detonated the bomb after finding it hidden by a road and there were no Israeli casualties.

Lebanese President Amin Gemayel Tuesday expressed sorrow at violent incidents in areas outside government control as well as indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas.

Mr. Gemayel was speaking at a liaison committee meeting attended by Western ambassadors, Lebanese army officers and commanders of the four-nation

multi-national peacekeeping force.

He said his government was more determined than ever "to continue the process of salvation," adding that national unity had never been stronger.

At present, the government's writ runs no further than the confines of greater Beirut.

Meanwhile, state-run Beirut Radio broke into its news programmes to announce that authorities had cracked a ring of people responsible for a wave of bomb blasts in the capital.

It said several members of the ring were under interrogation. In Beirut, security sources said Israeli troops opened fire in the Shwafat area, on the outskirts of the capital, Tuesday morning and fired one shell at a cardboard factory, starting a fire.

The reason for the shelling was not known. The gunfire was apparently a precautionary measure against possible attacks in the area, where well-armed local militias operate, the sources said.

Rebels boycott meeting

Abu Jihad said the all-night Fateh meeting ended in deadlock despite "efforts by Palestinian, Arab and international leaders."

Ustinov warns Soviet officers

(Continued from page 1)

round the world, he said. "There is practically no region of the globe where the military threat from imperialism has not increased."

Mr. Ustinov's speech, reported by TASS news agency, said Moscow was still committed to peaceful coexistence and detente and believed that despite the tense state of international relations it was possible to halt "nuclear madness."

The defence minister, a close supporter of newly elected head of state Yuri Andropov, said last week's Communist Party plenum demanded better ideological propaganda among the armed forces.

He called for expanded "military-patriotic" propaganda among young people to prepare them for military service and for higher combat readiness among serving military units.

The Defence Ministry meeting was also addressed by First Deputy Defence Minister Nikolai Ogarkov and by General Alexei Yegorov, chief political officer of the armed forces.

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SPORTS

Last foal
sired by
Shergar born

DUBLIN (R) — The last of 42 foals sired by champion racehorse Shergar before it was kidnapped four months ago was born at the weekend.

The brown filly born to the mare River Lady at the Moyglare stud in County Kildare on Sunday was worth an estimated £250,000 (£325,000) at birth.

Shergar, who was syndicated for £10 million (£15 million) after winning the 1981 English and Irish Derbys, was offered for stud at £70,000 (£95,000) a time.

No trace of the horse has been found since it was snatched from the Aga Khan's stud west of here by masked gunmen in February, though six policemen are still involved in the hunt for it.

Lloyds of London has already announced that insurers will pay out to those of the 34 shareholders covered against theft.

Ferrari launches
new Formula
One car

MARANELLO, Italy (R) — The Ferrari motor-racing team Monday unveiled a new Formula One car which they hope to enter for the British Grand Prix on July 16.

The Ferrari 126 C-Three was given a 150-km drive by team driver Patrick Tambay.

The car was developed to meet new racing regulations outlawing aerodynamic skirts.

A Ferrari spokesman said the new design, which features a weight-saving composite body of aluminium and carbon fibre, also reduces the weight of the turbo-engine.

World Cricket Cup with
full-strength Windies

LONDON (R) — The West Indies will be back to full strength in their World Cricket Cup title defence when they take on Pakistan in the semifinals here Wednesday.

Even without regular opener Gordon Greenidge and two of the game's fastest bowlers, the West Indians were able to crush Zimbabwe by 10 wickets on Monday.

"Gordon Greenidge, who was rested because of a slight strain, Michael Holding and Andy Roberts will all be available for the semifinal," said West Indies captain Clive Lloyd said.

Lloyd, who led the West Indies to victory in the inaugural 1975 competition and again in 1979, is just two matches away from a hat-trick of triumphs in the one-day international cup.

Victory over Pakistan, who scraped through to the last four by beating New Zealand by 11 runs Monday, would line the West Indians up for a final clash against England or India.

England, like the West Indies, slipped to just one defeat in their six qualifying group matches, completing their series with a nine-wicket win over Sri Lanka on Monday.

India, who take on England at Old Trafford, Manchester, on Wednesday, reached the semifinals for the first time thanks to surprising wins over the West Indies in their opening match and over Australia in their Group B finale on Monday.

India belied their standing with the bookmakers as 40-1 outsiders by giving Australia a 118-run trouncing. "We've now shown what we can do in one-day cricket and

we'll give England a real game," India captain Kapil Dev said.

Australian captain Kim Hughes, unable to play because of an injured thigh muscle, lamented: "We were pathetic. We only had to bat sensibly on what was a beautiful wicket but we threw it away."

India's heroes were medium-pacers Roger Binny and Madan Lal who each bagged four wickets. "It was the highlight of my career," said Man-of-the-Match Binny.

Pakistan failed to fulfil high expectations in the qualifying series and looked doomed until New Zealand were surprisingly beaten by Sri Lanka last Saturday.

"We were lucky to be there at all after some of our World Cup performances so far, but we just about got it right this time," Pakistan captain Imran Khan said.

Pakistan pipped New Zealand for second place in Group A behind England because of a superior run-rate. A century by Zaheer Abbas and a thrilling 79 not out by Man-of-the-Match Imran paved the way to victory.

New Zealand staged a late rally, aided by lapses by Pakistan which would be fatal against the West

Indies Wednesday. "When the pressure was on towards the end we lost our heads a bit and we can't afford to do that in the next game," Imran said.

Pakistan will have to lift their performance to overcome the West Indies who are back to their formidable best after their lapse against India in the opening match.

Former West Indies captain Gary Sobers, who coached the Sri Lanka team here, believes his home country will win the tournament.

"England are quite a good team—one of the best they have produced for a long time, but so far in the World Cup they have not come up against a really strong attack. Imran Khan was injured for Pakistan and New Zealand had only Richard Hadlee with pace," he said.

"The West Indies have still got a formidable attack. Even if they lose one or two of their fast bowlers they still have others in reserve, and more importantly Viv Richards has begun to run into form with the bat, which is not a good sign for England."

Brazil faces hardest
match of European tour

GOTHENBURG, Sweden (R) — Brazil, undefeated since their unsuccessful campaign for last year's World Cup, meet Sweden here Wednesday in what could be a difficult match at the end of their four-nation European soccer tour.

The brilliant Brazilians start as favourites but would be wise not to underestimate their hosts, who last month beat World Champions Italy 2-1 in a European Championship match.

In the earlier matches on the tour Brazil convincingly defeated Portugal 4-1 and Switzerland 2-1 but were held to a draw by Wales.

Sweden's fortunes have declined since their defeat of Italy and they were beaten 1-1 at home by Romania in another European Championship match two weeks ago.

Their problems will be compounded by the absence of Haakan Sandberg and Glenn Strömberg, who scored the two goals against Italy.

The match in Gothenburg is part of celebrations of the 25th anniversary of the hosting of the 1958 World Cup by the Swedish Football Federation. Brazil won the cup that year, beating Sweden in the final.

Navratilova makes devastating start

LONDON (R) — Title-holder Martina Navratilova started with a crushing win, but for two other top women contenders the 1983 Wimbledon Tennis Championships ended in bitter disappointment Tuesday.

Fourth-seeded American Tracy Austin withdrew before striking a ball, beaten by a back injury she sustained nine days ago, and sixth-seeded Bettina Bunge, the West German international who lives in Florida, perished in her first round match against the steady Swiss player Christiane Jolissaint, ranked 55th in the world.

In the men's singles, Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia and Johan Kriek, the South African-born American, won impressively, hinting strongly that talk of Americans Jimmy Connors and John McEnroe having the competition to themselves may be premature.

Navratilova, seeking to win the women's title for the fourth time since 1978, gave a near-flawless performance in disposing of 21-year-old Beverly Mould of South Africa 6-1, 6-4 in just 32 minutes.

Navratilova, beaten only once in the first set, conceded 11 points in the first set, four of them in the opening game which she lost, and a miserly six in the second. The luckless Mould might as well have been playing on another court for all the impact she made.

Later Navratilova paid tribute to her new American coach Mike Estep. "With Mike as my coach, my practices are more difficult than my matches because he hits the ball so much harder," she said. "He's an excellent player and I wonder why it didn't dawn on me before to have him as a coach."

"I'm amazed at how much quicker and sharper I've become since we got together."

Bunge, a Wimbledon semifinalist a year ago, had a match point when she led 6-5 in the second set but her failure to make the most of it, and her defeat in the subsequent tiebreaker, cut so deeply into her morale that her game collapsed in the deciding set. After two and a half hours she was beaten 3-6, 7-6, 11-9.

Jolissaint is no world-beater but she is a steady player, capable of hitting winners from the baseline and forecourt. Her unflappable approach was too much for the erratic Bunge, whose game veered from the impressive to the incompetent.

Americans Andrea Jaeger and Pam Shriver, the third and fifth seeds, survived their first round matches comfortably enough. Jaeger beat compatriot Susan Rimes 6-1, 7-6 and Shriver, testing the ankle that gave way in the French Championships last month, beat another young American, Patty Fendick, 6-2, 6-2.

The bottom half of the men's draw, which contains second-seeded John McEnroe, is beginning to look far more competitive than the top half. Jimmy Connors's section.

Lendl and Kriek are both in McEnroe's half and so, too, is New York's Vitas Gerulaitis, who came through a demanding centre court match Tuesday against the talented young Indian Ramesh Krishnan.

Lendl, the third seed, dislikes playing on grass but is determined to show this year that he has sufficient talent to handle any surface. He opened well Tuesday, beating South African Bernie Milton 7-6, 6-1, 6-0.

Milton is ranked a lowly 143rd on the players' computer but he is a shrewd grass-court player who has twice reached the fourth round at Wimbledon and in his time has beaten Connors, McEnroe, Roscoe Tanner and Arthur Ashe.

He was expected to test Lendl to the full but in the event he managed to extend him only in the first set when he led 4-1 in the tiebreaker.

Lendl cut the deficit by picking up the next two points and drew level with a clubbing forehand down the line. He then moved ahead 6-4 and after squandering the first set point, made no mistake on the second with an exquisitely angled backhand volley.

Lendl, whose many tournament victories do not include a grand slam title, raced away with the next two sets and said later: "They tell me the groundsmen here say I have the type of game to do well at Wimbledon—I hope he's right."

"I know how important it is to do well here. People keep telling me but they don't need to. It's one of the big three tournaments and obviously I'd like to win."

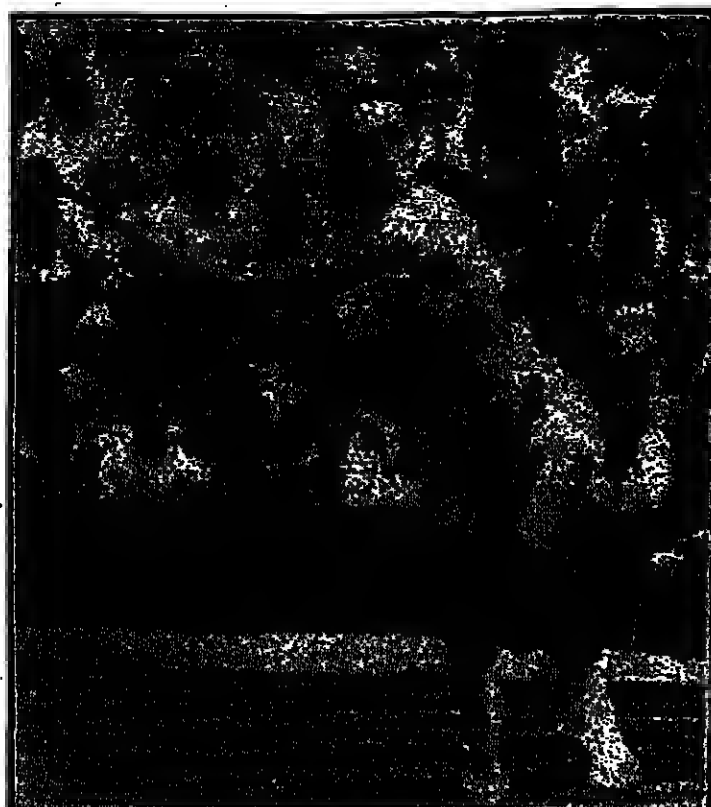
Kriek is known as a dangerous performer on grass and would surely have been seeded higher than 11th if his performances on this surface had been taken into account. He has won the last two Australian titles and reached the quarter-finals at Wimbledon in 1981 and again last year.

After dropping his opening service against American Sammy Giammalva, he stepped up his game to cruise through his opening match Tuesday 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.

Eighth-seeded Gerulaitis, a semifinalist here in 1977 and 1978, found Krishnan a difficult player to subdue and was on court for nearly four hours before winning 8-7, 7-5, 7-6, 5-7, 6-3.

The 22-year-old Krishnan, the world's top junior in 1979, has a fine array of strokes and a lovely touch. With a streak of ruthlessness, he might easily have caused a major upset.

He had two points in the second set for a 4-1 lead and had he capitalised on either of them it is unlikely that Gerulaitis would have found a way back into the match. Gerulaitis also faltered when he dropped serve at 5-3 in the fourth set but he came through strongly



Martina Navratilova — the reigning Wimbledon Ladies Champion in action against Beverly Mould of South Africa at Wimbledon on Tuesday. (A.P. wirephoto)

in the deciding. "He was making some great shots and I knew I had to hang on in there," Gerulaitis commented.

Chris Evert Lloyd of the United States, seeded to meet Navratilova in the women's final, followed Gerulaitis on to centre court and made up for her long wait with a quick demolition job on compatriot Alicia Molton. She won 6-2, 6-1 in under an hour.

Vilas wins
players' support

Argentine Guillermo Vilas, under threat of a year's suspension from tennis, received the support of 20 leading players on Tuesday.

The players, including American John McEnroe and Czechoslovak Ivan Lendl put their signatures to a brief statement calling on the Men's International Professional Tennis Council (MIPTC) to withdraw "the harsh sanctions" imposed on Vilas.

Earlier this month the MIPTC announced a one-year ban on Vilas, the world's fifth-ranked player, for allegedly receiving appearance money for playing in a tournament in Rotterdam in March. He was also fined \$20,000.

Vilas has denied the allegation and lodged an appeal.

The players' statement of support for Vilas, circulated at the Wimbledon Championships Tuesday, said:

"We, the undersigned, individually and collectively wish to express our support for Guillermo Vilas and our belief that he has been unfairly fined and suspended by the MIPTC."

"Guillermo Vilas, always a gentleman on and off the tennis court, has been a strong supporter of professional tennis for the last 10 years. He has entertained millions of people around the world and he is primarily responsible for the rise in popularity of tennis in South America."

"We ask the MIPTC to void the harsh sanctions imposed on Guillermo and to understand our concern over depriving, unjustly, we believe, one of our colleagues of his right to earn his livelihood."

The signatories, in order, were: John McEnroe (U.S.), Ivan Lendl (Czechoslovakia), Yannick Noah (France), Mats Wilander (Sweden), Jose-Luis Clerc (Argentina), Vitas Gerulaitis (U.S.), Johan Kriek (U.S.), Kevin Curren (South Africa), Steve Denton (U.S.), Bill Scanlon (U.S.), Wojtek Fibak (Poland), Brian Teacher (U.S.), Henri Leconte (France), Henrik Sundstrom (Sweden), Cassio Motta (Brazil), Joao Soares (Brazil), Ricardo Acuna (Chile), Florin Segarceanu (Romania), Claudio Panatta (Italy), Peter Fleming (U.S.).

Wimbledon Champion Jimmy Connors of the United States, a notable absentee from the list, spoke out last week against the punishments imposed on Vilas.

Chinese defector set for U.S.
professional tennis debut

ERIE, Pennsylvania (R) — Hu Na, the Chinese tennis player whose defection to the United States started a Sino-American row, will play in her first U.S. professional tennis tournament next week, tournament organisers said Tuesday.

Hu's name was included among players entered for the \$10,000 women's tennis tournament beginning on Monday at the Westwood Racquet Club here.

Her defection during the Federation Cup competition in Santa Clara, California, last July strained relations between Peking and Washington as the U.S. authorities deliberated for eight months on her request for political asylum.

When asylum was granted last April 4, Peking cancelled sports and cultural exchanges with the United States scheduled for the remainder of this year.

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Tuesday	13:00	16:25	19:05	16:15	21:35	24:30	22:40	—
Wednesday	14:30	23:10	22:00	19:10	19:35	22:40	—	—
Thursday	14:30	23:55	23:30	19:40	19:35	—	—	—
Friday	14:30	21:55	—	19:40	19:35	12:45	—	—
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Portuguese premier promises bitter economic medicine

LISBON (R) — Portugal's Socialist Prime Minister Mario Soares has promised bitter economic medicine to heal his country's sick economy.

Mr. Soares, 58, who heads Portugal's 15th government since the 1974 revolution and its first coalition of Socialists and Social Democrats, warned parliament Monday of "immediate, tough austerity measures" to beat the crisis.

He also called for a truce between labour and management. Mr. Soares said the nation's foreign debt reached a total of \$13.46 billion by the end of last year, and the balance of payments deficit on current account had risen from \$1.25 billion in 1980 to \$3.31 billion.

Mr. Soares told parliament he

would ask for special powers to legislate by decree in key sectors during the three-month summer parliamentary recess due to begin at the end of this month.

To underscore his appeal for patriotism and sacrifice by all sectors of Portugal's 10 million people, he said he would ask for a vote of confidence at the end of a three-day debate opening on Wednesday.

His centre-left alliance has a total of 176 seats in the 250-member assembly of the republic.

Mr. Soares has scheduled a three-stage emergency programme over the legislature's four-year term, beginning with an 18-month drive to slash the external debt, followed by plans to encourage investment and mod-

ernise the economy as Portugal negotiates for entry into the European Economic Community.

An early new approach will be made to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for medium-term financial assistance, according to Bank of Portugal Governor Jacinto Nunes.

There has been persistent speculation here over the past week of an imminent new devaluation of 10 to 15 per cent of the escudo.

But the new government has been quick to deny any such intention — while retaining discreet silence so far on the harsh measures in store for the Portuguese, already living with an annual inflation rate of more than 20 per cent.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Moroccan GDP rises by 6.8%

RABAT (R) — Morocco's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew by about 6.8 per cent in real terms last year, mostly because food production recovered from the severe drought of 1981, the Bank of Morocco for Foreign Trade said Monday. But the balance of trade deficit widened to 13.5 billion dirhams (about \$2.2 billion) from 10.5 billion dirhams in 1981, largely because of a fall in exports of phosphates. Grain production reached 4.9 million metric tonnes in 1982, more than twice as much as in 1981, and copper ore production almost tripled, from 22,500 tonnes to 63,000 tonnes, it said.

IDB lends Turkey \$25m

JEDDAH (R) — The Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank (IDB) said Tuesday it was lending Turkey \$25 million to finance crude oil imports. It gave no details of the term or interest rate on the trade financing arrangement, or of the planned oil imports.

Iran, S. Yemen reach understanding

TEHRAN (OPECNA) — A letter of understanding covering the areas of oil, commerce, technical and economic cooperation was signed here Monday between Iran and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Ministers fail to fix fish quotas

LUXEMBOURG (R) — European community fisheries ministers Monday failed to fix 1983 fish quotas and agreed to meet again next month to try to settle their differences.

UNDP prepares Arab aid plan

RIYADH (OPECNA) — The council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has prepared an Arab regional assistance scheme costing \$31.9 million over the next four years, it was announced here Monday. The regional programme is based on four priorities — food security, human resource development, strengthening of Arab development institutions and improved inter-country transport and communications.

Indonesia to up hydropower output

JAKARTA (OPECNA) — The Indonesian state electricity company plans to build 10 small and medium sized hydropower plants, adding 940 MW to its generating capacity, and a number of mini hydro schemes with a further 56 MW.

French government predicts improved economy in 1984

PARIS (R) — The French economy will start to recover next year from the effects of the government's austerity measures, which have halted economic growth, the finance ministry said Tuesday.

It said in a communique that despite continuing problems for the world economy, increased exports would help bring a one per cent rise in France's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1984, after no growth at all this year.

The government had been forecasting two per cent growth for 1983 before it introduced its austerity programme in March aimed at cutting the huge trade deficit.

The measures, including increased taxation and an obligatory loan by taxpayers to the government, were intended to cut consumption in order to stem the flow of imports and wipe out the

trade deficit by the end of 1984.

The ministry, in its first precise prediction for 1984, said there would be a trade shortfall of six billion francs (\$780 million)—close to the target and sharply lower than its forecast of a 59 billion francs (\$7.7 billion) deficit this year.

The right-wing newspaper Le Figaro said however the forecast for this year seemed unattainable, after last year's deficit of 93.3 billion francs (\$12.1 billion).

By applying the new forecasts for imports and exports, it said the deficit was more likely to be 75 billion francs (\$9.7 billion).

The ministry said imports would fall 0.1 per cent in 1983 but then rise 0.3 per cent in 1984. Exports would rise 2.5 per cent in 1983 and improve further to a 4.1 per cent gain in 1984.

In addition to the boost given to the economy by exports in the first half of 1984, growth would be stimulated by stronger investment and by increased household consumption, resulting from a fall in inflation.

The ministry said that from mid-1983 inflation would fall steadily to an annual six per cent and then five per cent.

Latest figures put retail price inflation at nine per cent.

The forecasts are based on a slow improvement in 1983 in the economies of members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). For 1984 they also are based on an expected halt to the decline in demand from members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and developing nations.

U.S. congressional committee approves 1984 financial plan

WASHINGTON (R) — A congressional committee defined President Reagan Monday night by approving a 1984 budget plan that would raise taxes and cut proposed defence spending to reduce the federal deficit.

A committee of the House of Representatives and Senate agreed to spend \$859 billion against revenues of \$880 billion, which would produce a deficit of \$179 billion.

It called for \$12 billion in higher taxes in 1984 and \$73 billion over three years.

The committee proposed halving Mr. Reagan's defence increase of 10 per cent to five per cent after inflation. But it would boost non-defence spending.

The proposed deficit was some \$11 billion less than Mr. Reagan's latest estimate for 1984.

Mr. Reagan has warned that he would veto major new taxes which he believes limit economic recovery, but concern over rising budget deficits has led Congress to seek higher taxation and lower military spending.

There was no guarantee that

this compromise would win congressional approval since the Republican-dominated Senate had approved the previous plan by only one vote.

That budget, also vigorously opposed by Mr. Reagan, proposed 1984 taxes of \$9 billion rather than the \$12 billion contained in the latest proposals.

Both Democrats and Republicans have expressed concern that heavy U.S. borrowing to match federal deficits, anticipated at \$200 billion or more over the next few years, could choke off a recovery.

This worry was also voiced by leaders of the Western industrialised nations and Japan at the economic summit held last month in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Mr. Reagan had argued against not only raising taxes but also cutting down on his proposed 10 per cent increase in defence spending.

World Bank aids Sudan, Kenya

WASHINGTON (R) — The World Bank Monday approved loans and credits totalling \$159 million to support agricultural rehabilitation and basic urban services in Sudan and Kenya.

The bank said Sudan will use a \$50 million credit from its affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA), to supply parts for machinery and equipment used in irrigation schemes, and an \$80 million credit will finance a project to increase crop yields and production.

Another bank affiliate, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), will loan Kenya \$7 million to promote rural economic growth for about 29,000 lower and middle-income households.

Qatar, B.P., CFP sign accord

DOHA (R) — Qatar has signed a memorandum of understanding with British Petroleum Company (B.P.) and Compagnie Française des Pétroles (CFP) to exploit gas reserves of its northeast coast.

The memorandum was signed here Monday night by Qatar's minister of finance and petroleum Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Thani, and representatives from B.P. and CFP, which would each have a 7.5 per cent stake in the project, estimated to cost between \$5 and \$6 billion.

Sheikh Abdul Aziz told the Qatari News Agency the signing of the memorandum would be followed later this year by the setting up of a Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) company.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities firmed on moderate buying interest after opening easier, following the Beecham £196.6 million rights issue, dealers said. The F.T. index at 1400 GMT was up 4.8 at a record 732.6.

Beecham fell 15p to 353 after the Rightsbut rallied to 365, down 3p on balance.

Government bonds lost early firmness to show falls up to one point in long dates on moderate selling activity, dealers said. Index-linked stocks were around 1/4 point easier.

Gold shares were volatile and closed generally easier for choice but North Americans were mixed in line with Wall Street.

Builders were firm on hopes that building societies might postpone a rise in mortgage rates, dealers said. Wimpey was up 5p at 142 after 144 and Barratt rose 6p to 250.

Electricals were firm where traded with Plessey 8p higher at 747, but oils continued to drift on light profit-taking with B.P. and Shell down 10p at 434 and 594 respectively. Banks and insurances were generally a few pence firmer.

Among leading industrials, ICI was up 2p at 496 after 498. BTR gained 3p at 527.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

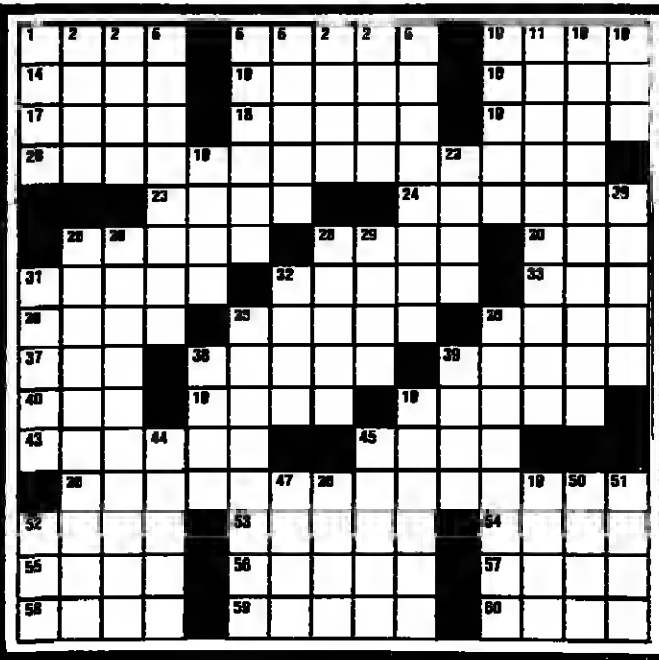
LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.5332/42	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2297/1.2300	Canadian dollars
	2.5525/35	West German marks
	2.8535/45	Dutch guilders
	2.1115/25	Swiss francs
	50.98/51.02	Belgian francs
	7.6780/6810	French francs
	1511.50/1512.50	Italian lire
	240.00/15	Japanese yen
	7.6590/6640	Swedish crowns
	7.3275/3325	Norwegian crowns
	9.1350/1400	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	415.10/415.60	U.S. dollars

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED

THE Daily Crossword by Albert J. Klaus

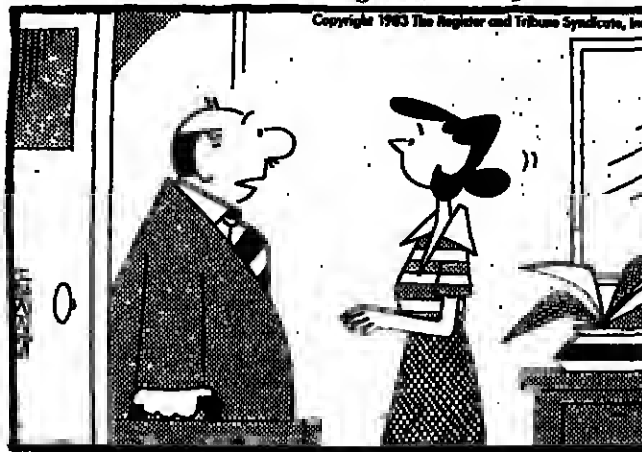
ACROSS	28 Finished	42 Primp	13 Roll of
1 Stallion	30 Obese	43 Over	bliss
5 Musical	31 Antler	45 Plunder	21 — of March
group	32 Branches	46 Golf star	22 Leg joint
letters	33 Because	52 Pulpit	25 Perfume
10 Eject	34 Mail of	53 Selected	26 Football
14 Become	35 Wedding	54 Roman	MVP, 1943
weary	exchange	emperor	27 Not suit-
15 Trimd one	36 Philippine	55 Wind	able for
16 Kind of	Island	56 Passageway	surgery
cotton	37 High	57 — fix	28 Eatery
17 Nipa palm	38 Operatic	58 Singles	29 — even
18 Between:	melody	59 Mada of	keel
pref.	39 Mountain	60 Girl at	31 Triple
19 Sudden	40 Light flow	college	crown
attack	unit	61 Identical	32 Identical
20 Tennis star	39 Performer	35 Famine	33 Famine
23 — May	40 Regret	36 Of certain	solvents
Oliver	41 Son of	37 Switch	39 In — (suc-
24 Soft wool	Jacob	42 Irish	cassively)
26 Scoops		43 whiskey	44 Stout
		44 Use up	indians
		gradually	45 Cotton
		5 City on the	thread
		Savanna	46 Vibrating
		6 — Henia	sound
		7 Pretty	48 Fireman's
		8 Cruising	equipment
		9 Receiving	49 Make over
		in kind	50 Catnip
		10 Shoot	or cork
		11 Keyboard	51 Worked in
		instrument	a garden
		12 Act of	52 In the past
		leaving a	
		country	



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THE BETTER HALF.

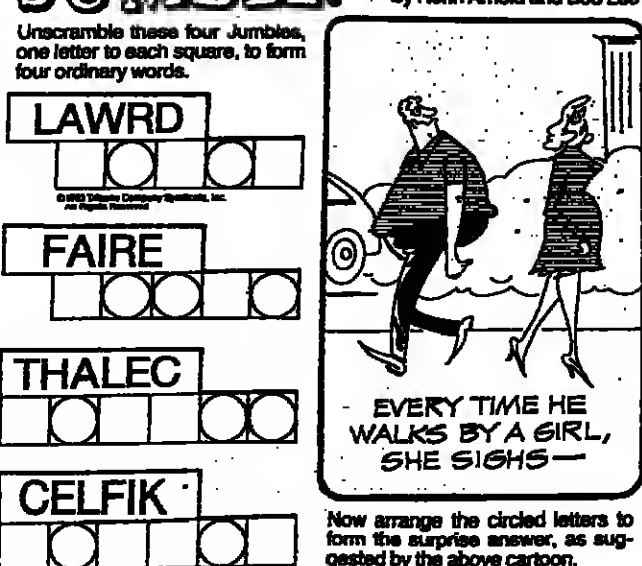
By Harris



"I didn't get much done today. My computer and I aren't on speaking terms."

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: (Answers tomorrow)

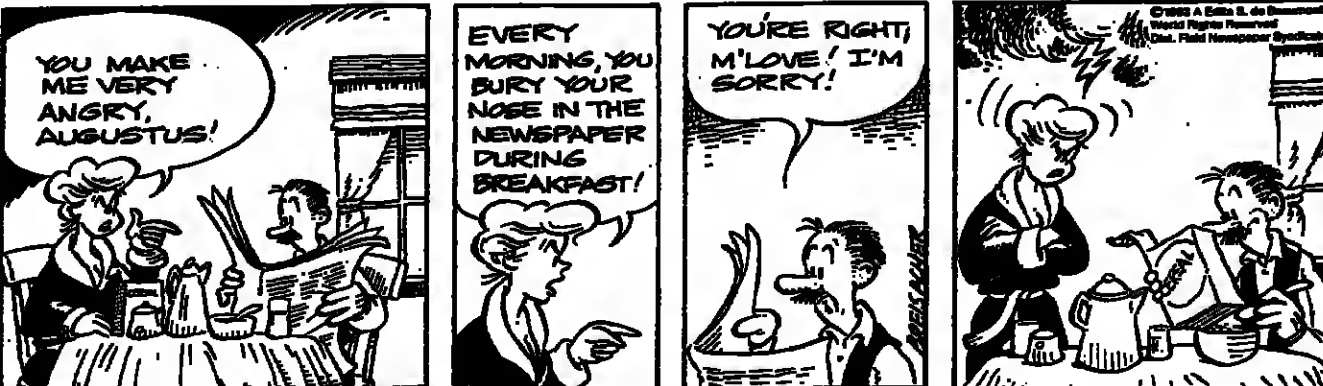
Yesterday's Jumbles: LADLE KNAVE JACKET HIATUS

Answer: What a thoughtful wife has ready when her husband comes home from a fishing trip—A STEAK

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



WORLD

Chilean unions prepare for showdown with Pinochet

SANTIAGO (R) — Chilean unions representing almost a third of the country's workforce have called for an indefinite general strike from Thursday in a further trial of strength with the military government.

The decision was announced shortly after a judge ordered the imprisonment of six leaders of the union representing striking copper workers, including its acting President Hugo Estivalde.

There was no immediate government reaction to the call for a national stoppage although President Augusto Pinochet has said he intends to crack down on opposition to his 11-year-old government.

Copper workers and truck owners are spearheading the most serious challenge to military rule. They were at the forefront of labour unrest in the turbulent months that led to the 1973 coup.

Adolfo Quiñeros, president of the confederation of truck owners, announced the strike call at a packed news conference Monday night when he read a statement in the name of the workers' national command and the national road transport council.

Gen. Pinochet's warning that he intended to crack down on opposition followed a national day of protest last Tuesday and the arrest of one of its organisers, Rodolfo Seguel, president of the Confederation of Copper Workers (CTC).

The CTC responded to the arrest by calling on its 22,000 members to strike for one day last Friday. The stoppages became indefinite in two of the four major mines following mass sackings of strikers by the state-owned copper corporation Codelco.

The government promptly pressed charges against 11 CTC leaders under internal security laws and a judge Monday ordered that six of them, including Mr. Estivalde, join Mr. Seguel in Santiago's jail while he carries out his investigation, the semi-official Orbe news agency said.

Apart from the copper workers, whose industry is the backbone of

Chile's ailing economy, the workers' national command includes dockers, public employees and workers in the car, construction and textile sectors as well as many others.

The transport council includes truck owners, taxi drivers and urban and long-distance bus operators.

The command claims to represent almost all unionised labour in Chile, which it says is about 31 per cent of the workforce.

Independent labour analysts put the figure at nearer to 20 per cent however and said many workers might not respond to the strike call because of labour laws introduced by the military government that have fragmented unions and made strikes illegal.

They also noted that even within the powerful and generally radical CTC, there had been no strike at Chuquibambilla, the biggest mine which produces half of Chile's copper.

The Santiago journalists' association said meanwhile that editors had been called to another meeting with the government Tuesday after some objected when the authorities last Saturday asked the media not to publish information on the copper strike.

Newspaper sources said they had received a government communication forbidding them to publish anything about the general strike.

The association also accused the government of telling journalists not to write about the June 14 day of protest beforehand and to play up the violence of that night.

It said in a statement that the government information agency instructed newspapers to use words such as "pillage" and "vandalism" in headlines, insisted on inspecting all copy and that photos of the demonstrators were seized by security forces.

"These facts confirm once more... that press freedom does not exist in our country," the association said.

Indonesian satellite sends good news

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE, Florida (R) — The crew of the American space shuttle Challenger awoke Tuesday to good news about the Indonesian satellite launched from their craft two days ago.

Ground control told the crew that an engine burn on the Indonesian craft had been successful, indicating it was on course for its higher orbit, 36,000 kilometres over the equator.

Sally Ride, the first American spacewoman, who helped deploy the satellite, replied, "That's great."

The Palapa satellite will provide additional communications for Indonesia.

The shuttle crew had a light schedule of experiments and camera work Tuesday as they passed the halfway point of their six-day mission.

The main work of the day is to be the operation of a scientific experiment in which cells floating in a liquid are separated by an electrical charge.

Called electrophoresis, the process has been used for years on earth to make pharmaceuticals, but it is much more efficient in weightlessness and is expected to be one of the first commercial manufacturing processes to be conducted in space.

The experiment, built by the McDonnell Douglas Aerospace Company, is on its third shuttle flight.

Sally Ride, 32, America's first woman space voyager, will operate the device, called Cefis.

Her four fellow astronauts will spend the day "housekeeping" and taking television, film and still pictures.

A computer hitch which developed in a payload of West German experiments Monday, described as minor and the first problem of the mission, appeared to have resolved itself as ground controllers reported receiving information from the experiments.

The crew will go to sleep early Tuesday evening to begin adjusting for an early awakening on Friday, when they are to land here at 6:53 a.m. (10:53 GMT).

Pope's comments upset Poland's administration

WROCLAW, Poland (R) — Crowds waving banners of the outlawed Solidarity Trade union along with national flags greeted Pope John Paul II Tuesday in this industrial city, scene of major disturbances during the period of martial law in Poland.

"I bring you my solidarity and that of the church," the Pope told his audience of up to a million people at an outdoor mass.

He said Poland had a hunger and a thirst for righteousness, which had particularly shown itself in recent years.

The pontiff, on an eight-day tour of his homeland, was given loud ovations each time he used the word Solidarity.

He was also applauded when he said Poland remembered not only its war dead but all those who had lost their lives in events of recent years.

In Poznan Monday he had knelt in homage to people killed during the 1956 anti-communist riots in that city.

His words Tuesday about the dead could be expected to have an impact in this southwestern city, once a major Solidarity base and scene to street clashes between police and demonstrators after martial law was imposed in December 1981.

The Communist authorities have shown concern about the jubilation welcome his more political remarks have received since the Pope arrived in Poland last Thursday.

Tuesday all leading Warsaw newspapers gave prominence to an interview with Deputy Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski strikingly obliquely but sharply at remarks the Pope made during a religious rally for young people in Czestochowa last Saturday.

Without naming the pontiff, Mr. Rakowski indirectly accused him of distorting facts and sowing unrest and defeatism.

Tuesday, after arriving at the scene of the Wroclaw mass by helicopter, the Pope said the Polish desire for righteousness sprang "from a sense of the dignity of human work, from love of the homeland and from solidarity, that is to say from a sense of the common good."

Immediately in front of the giant outdoor altar, members of the crowd held a huge banner bearing the familiar "Solidarnosc" emblem in black letters.

Reminder of shooting

CZESTOCHOWA, Poland — Pope John Paul has said he was leaving the belt from the cassock worn when he was shot in an assassination attempt two years ago as an offering at Poland's Jasna Gora monastery.

He wanted to leave the belt, with a bullet hole in it, as an offering of thanks and visible reminder of the event, he said.

Italian judge wants to quit arms investigation

TRENTO, Italy (R) — The magistrate who has led a three-and-a-half-year investigation into a massive arms and drugs chain involving Italy, Bulgaria and the Middle East has asked to quit the case.

Carlo Palermo, who travelled to Bulgaria in March and received two Bulgarian magistrates last month, made his request in a letter to the president of Trento law courts, chief public prosecutor Francesco Simeoni told reporters.

Mr. Simeoni said he could not disclose the reasons for Judge Palermo's decision, but ruled out "pressure or threats on the magistrate of any kind."

The president, Rocco Latorre, had not yet replied, judicial sources said.

Judge Palermo, 35, said last November he had uncovered million-dollar deals in which heroin was exchanged for arms, including helicopters and tanks, through a network with contacts in Trento, Sicily and Milan. He said some deals had been arranged in the Bulgarian capital, Sofia.

Judge Palermo said this month he was seeking the extradition from Bulgaria of Turk Bekir Celik, who is also wanted in connection with the 1981 shooting of Pope John Paul.

Sino-Vietnamese deadlock drags on

HANOI (R) — Prospects of significant Sino-Vietnamese agreement on Kampuchea seem as remote as ever despite fresh efforts by South East Asian foreign ministers to tackle the problem that has dogged the region for years.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach told Reuters that total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea depended on a political settlement with China rather than with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

He said in an interview: "Total withdrawal of Vietnamese forces can only be settled between China and Vietnam but (the question of) peace in South East Asia must be settled among South East Asian countries."

"If some agreement can be reached on space and stability in South East Asia we can withdraw more troops. But total withdrawal would need an end to Chinese interference in Indo-Chinese affairs", he said he saw no prospect of such a move by Peking.

A Chinese embassy official, commenting on Mr. Thach's remarks, said: "Up to now we can see no sign that the Vietnamese are ready to withdraw all their troops from Kampuchea. The Vietnamese offer of a partial withdrawal is a fraud. There is no Chinese threat to Vietnam so we cannot withdraw that threat."

Peking has said it will enter talks with Vietnam only if Hanoi first agrees to a total withdrawal of its troops in Vietnam, estimated by Western diplomats to number around 160,000.

Mr. Thach said that more troops could be withdrawn if security arrangements could be devised on Kampuchea's border with Thailand, where Vietnamese forces recently launched a dry season offensive against Chinese-backed guerrillas.

The minister was speaking in advance of a two-day meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers starting in Bangkok on Saturday. This will be followed by consultations between the ASEAN ministers and their colleagues from Western states concerned to end the Kampuchean crisis.

Mr. Thach made clear that Vietnam would not compromise on its Kampuchean policy, which it sees as vital to national security for the sake of economic gains.

"We accept foreign aid and investment only without strings," Mr. Thach said. "We are jealous of our independence."

He said Hanoi was ready for direct or indirect talks with Peking and would welcome the help of any country.

The minister said he had been encouraged by his recent visits to two ASEAN capitals, Bangkok and Manila.

He emphasised his preference for settling the questions at issue between Vietnam and ASEAN by talks in the smallest possible forum.

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ILO lists worker-rights offenders

GENEVA (R) — The International Labour Organisation (ILO) Tuesday listed Chile, Czechoslovakia and Turkey as having the most worrying cases of labour repression in its annual review of workers' rights around the world.

The ILO annual conference, adopting a report by an ILO watchdog committee on labour rights,

criticised all three countries for sacking workers for political reasons and called on them to revise their laws to ensure better job protection.

Poland, whose banning of the free trade union Solidarity was criticised by many delegates, was boycotted the three-week conference over a call by an earlier

ILO meeting for a special inquiry into its labour record.

The conference report, passed by 263 votes in favour, four against and 164 abstentions, called on Chile to release sacked workers.

The conference, which ends Wednesday, also asked Chile to allow refugees to return from the exile they went into in 1973.

Indian opposition leader hopes to beat Mrs. Gandhi

CHHATA, India (R) — An Indian opposition leader, who has walked almost 4,000 kilometres across the country, said he hoped to change the battleground of Indian politics by appealing for grassroots support in the villages.

Chandra Shekhar, 56, who heads the Janata Party which ruled the country between 1977 and 1980, is due to reach Delhi for a mass rally on Saturday after almost six months on the road.

He set out in January from Kanyakumari, the southern tip of India, and is now just 125 kilometres from the capital.

The bearded politician, wearing leather sandals and white homespun cotton, is expected to end his odyssey at the Delhi memorial to Mahatma Gandhi, who led a

Grassroots movement

He said he hoped to create a grassroots movement in favour of policies that aimed at helping the common man.

"In some parts of India people can't even get drinking water and we are spending our money on five-star hotels and rockets," he said as a doctor attended to two bandages on his feet, one over a blister, the other masking a broken toenail.

"There are two faces of our country. The rich can compete with the richest in the richest countries of the world. And the poorest in this land evoke the pity and sympathy of the poorest in the rest of the world," Mr. Shekhar, a pur-

itanical socialist, declared.

He said he wanted to build up an organisation that could win support in the villages of India. "I want to change the battleground from the past top-level politics and bring it down to earth."

This strategy, he stated, could help unseat Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

"If Mrs. Gandhi has to be fought by just propaganda, by using money power, by using state power, she can win the elections. If you want to defeat Mrs. Gandhi, the only way to go further down to the grassroots level where Mrs. Gandhi cannot reach, because she also has her limitations," he said. "In her game I cannot compete with Mrs. Gandhi. In this Mrs. Gandhi cannot compete with me."

Reagan fears C. American refugee flood into U.S.

MEXICO CITY (R) — President Reagan called for renewed efforts to block a Soviet-Cuban-Nicaraguan takeover of Central America but Nicaragua said it was ready to repel any anti-leftist invasion force — including the U.S. army.

Mr. Reagan said Monday night that U.S.-backed governments in Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador needed more aid from Washington to prevent a communist triumph that would send refugees swarming into the United States.

Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega said he believed 7,000 rebels based in Honduras were poised to launch a new invasion across the border in an effort to topple his leftist government.

At the same time, El Salvador's President Alvaro Magana said he did not know if he had managed to convince U.S. congressional sceptics that his country depended on U.S. economic and military aid in its battle against left-wing guerrillas.

And in Tegucigalpa, Honduras

President Roberto Suazo Cordova declared the establishment of a controversial U.S. military base in northern Honduras was necessary to thwart possible attacks from neighbouring countries.

"We must not listen to those who would disarm our friends and allow Central America to be turned into a string of anti-American Marxist dictatorships," Mr. Reagan told a Republican dinner in Jackson, Mississippi.

Rebels have made four invasion attempts since March to topple Nicaragua's Sandinista government, Nicaragua says the Reagan administration is arming and directing the rebels from Honduras, Washington's closest Central American ally.

"We are ready for the worst, even for an attack by the United States army," Mr. Ortega said in a radio broadcast.

Mr. Magana, back from a visit to Washington, said he was not sure if he had convinced congressmen, worried about the pace of reform and the human rights

situation in El Salvador, of the degree of his country's reliance on U.S. aid.

In Washington, U.S. officials said Mr. Reagan's effort to aid anti-leftist forces has been bolstered by intelligence reports showing close links between Nicaragua's ruling Sandinistas and the Soviet Union. Other information showed similar close links between Managua and anti-government forces in El Salvador.

Most of the new intelligence information was supplied by a high-ranking Nicaraguan defector, they said.

The most important information is said to have come from a former high-ranking Nicaraguan state security official, Miguel Bolanos Hunter, who defected to Costa Rica six weeks ago and is now in the United States aiding intelligence agencies.

Mr. Bolanos provided a detailed briefing on his former employer's activities to reporters from the Washington Post.

The Washington Post report

also said:

— An incident in March of last year in which a young Nicaraguan admitted he had fought with the guerrillas in El Salvador and then retracted his story before U.S. reporters was set up by Managua to embarrass Washington.

— Nicaraguan intelligence has deeply penetrated the U.S.-backed anti-Sandinista guerrilla groups and is aware in advance of their military plans and their strength.

— Heckling of Pope John II during his visit to Nicaragua in March was organised by the state security agency, which banned anti-Sandinista Catholics from papal appearances.

— Soviet, Cuban, Bulgarian and East German advisers are extensively involved in aiding Nicaraguan security forces.

— Some 80 Soviet MiG jet fighters in Cuba are designated for Nicaragua and will be sent there in 1985, after Nicaraguan pilots have been trained in Eastern Europe.

Ghana identifies failed coup leaders as ex-servicemen exiled in Togo

ABIDJAN (R) — Ex-servicemen exiled in neighbouring Togo staged the attempted coup in Accra on Sunday after releasing about 50 soldiers from jail, the Ghana government said Tuesday.

Details of the plot emerged during interrogation of the rebels. Accra Radio reported, quoting a statement from the ruling Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC).

"The attempted coup, the fourth in 18 months of PNDC rule, was crushed when loyal troops recaptured radio and television headquarters, which was in rebel

hands for nearly three hours.

The PNDC statement said a group of former servicemen who took refuge in Togo after previous abortive coups crossed the border with heavy arms.

Led by a Sergeant Malik, a one-time bodyguard of a retired senior officer, the group freed about 52 detained soldiers held in Usher Fort, James Fort and Nsamen medium security prison.

A number of prisoners who refused to join the jail break were either shot or forced to join the attack, the statement said.

Those freed were linked with

previous coup attempts on Nov. 23 and Feb. 27 and some were former members of the military intelligence department.

Apart from the radio station, the rebels attacked selected targets in Accra, the PNDC said.

No figures for the dead, wounded or arrested were given but the statement said the search continued for those on the run.

Demonstrators in the gold-mining city of Tarkwa rallied to support the government Monday and called for the immediate execution of the captured rebels, the radio reported.

Officer admits visiting Pretoria air force HQ

HARARE (R) — A Zimbabwean air force officer accused of helping sabotage Zimbabwean warplanes in an allegedly South African-inspired raid last year said Monday he had visited South African air force headquarters twice before the raid.

Air Lieutenant Neville Weir, 24, denied playing any part in the sabotage and said the purpose of his visits was to explore the opportunities for advanced jet flying in the South African air force.

He told the high court he was considering a job offer from the South African air force at the time of the raid last July.

The prosecution says all six defendants in the case freely admitted assisting the alleged saboteurs. The state says the raiders did \$7.2 million worth of damage to 13 warplanes and other military equipment.

But Malawi-born Weir, on trial with Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater, Air Commodore Philip Briscoe and Wing Commanders Peter Briscoe and John Cox and Air Lieutenant Barrington Lloyd, said the police had beaten him until he confessed.

He told the court that police interrogators wrapped a blanket over his head until he gave his confession.

Over 800 U.S. demonstrators arrested

LIVERMORE, California (R) — More than 800 anti-nuclear demonstrators were arrested Monday outside a U.S. weapons laboratory here as part of a national day of protests against nuclear weapons.

The total number of arrests in demonstrations across the country, called to mark "disarmament action day," were reported to have exceeded 1,000.

Police said 803 demonstrators were arrested outside the Lawrence Livermore Laboratory 511 kilometres south of San Francisco.

Maneka Gandhi detained briefly

NEW DELHI (R) — Police Tuesday briefly detained Maneka Gandhi, rebel daughter-in-law of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, after she tried to organise a peace march in the North Indian town of Patiala, scene of Hindu-Sikh clashes last month.

Forty other members of her newly-formed Rashtriya Sanjay Manch (National Sanjay Forum) were also arrested for defying a ban on demonstrations in the town, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

PTI said the marchers were driven away in police trucks and released outside the town.

Indian opposition leader hopes to beat Mrs. Gandhi

CHHATA, India (R) — An Indian opposition leader, who has walked almost 4,000 kilometres across the country, said he hoped to change the battleground of Indian politics by appealing for grassroots support in the villages.

Chandra Shekhar, 56, who heads the Janata Party which ruled the country between 1977 and 1980, is due to reach Delhi for a mass rally on Saturday after almost six months on the road.

He set out in January from Kanyakumari, the southern tip of India, and is now just 125 kilometres from the capital.

The bearded politician, wearing leather sandals and white homespun cotton, is expected to end his odyssey at the Delhi memorial to Mahatma Gandhi, who led a

march in the 1930s to mobilise his countrymen for the Indian independence struggle.

Mr. Shekhar, looking remarkably fit, told Reuters in an interview he hoped to shift the perspective of Indian politics back to the poor.

He was welcomed in the walled village town of Chhata on the highway between Delhi and Agra, city of Taj Mahal, by cheering villagers and a drum-beating band.

Accompanied by about 200 supporters also dressed in the simple white cotton favoured by Gandhi, he has been marching from village to village beneath the blazing sun hammering out his message that the country needs a return to the spirit of independence.

NEWS IN BRIEF

China sets up body to track down spies

PEKING (R) — China's new ministry of security will fight increased foreign espionage in the country that has emerged since it began opening up to the outside world, the new minister of the department, Ling Yun, said. "Some foreign countries have been stepping up their activities to spy on China's state secrets and have been sending in special agents for subversive and destructive purposes," he told the New China News Agency (NCNA). Mr. Ling said his ministry and the public security ministry, the other large security organisation, would work together closely. The minister did not say which countries he believed were intensifying intelligence activities against China.

Gen. Zia to visit Japan in July

TOKYO (R) — President Mohammad Zia ul Haq of Pakistan will make a six-day state visit to Japan from July 17, the foreign ministry announced Tuesday. Gen. Zia will have an audience with Emperor Hirohito and hold two rounds of talks with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, the ministry said. The talks are expected to cover international affairs and Japan's economic aid to Pakistan, ministry sources said.

Indian defence chief off to Soviet Union

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Defence Minister Ramaswami Venkataraman left Tuesday on a six-day official visit to the Soviet Union. India's main arms supplier, Mr. Venkataraman is scheduled to confer with Soviet Defence Minister Dmitry Ustinov and to tour some Soviet defence facilities, the Indian defence ministry said.

Japan to allow foreign students jobs

TOKYO (R) — Foreign students in Japan, mostly from Asian countries, will be allowed to take part-time jobs to help them meet the high cost of living, the justice ministry said Tuesday. Regulations will be changed from early next month to allow the students to work for up to 20 hours a week, officials said.

American picked as Intelsat chief

WASHINGTON (R) — Intelsat, the international telecommunications Satellite Organisation, announced Tuesday that it has chosen American businessman Richard Colino to be its new director general. Intelsat, a consortium of 119 countries, operates a global satellite communications system with headquarters in Washington.

Rabbit hole stumps veteran parachutist

DURHAM, England (R) — Brenda Grant, 32, made a safe landing after her 27th parachute jump, a free-fall descent from 3,000 metres. Then she stepped into a rabbit hole and broke her leg.

Norfolk turns out coat in 14 hours

LONDON (R) — Farmer's wife Sheila Brown got a new coat at the weekend — with wool shorn from four of her sheep, dyed, woven and tailored in just 14 hours. Thirty members of the Norwich Guild of Spinners, weavers and dyers set themselves the challenge at Ludham, Norfolk, inspired by the story of a coat made for a landowner between sunrise and sunset in 1811.

Peruvian prisoners tunnel into freedom

LIMA (R) — More than 100 prisoners, mostly drug traffickers, have escaped from a jail in Peru's southeastern jungle after digging a tunnel to a nearby private house, a police spokesman said. Eight men have been recaptured, the spokesman added.

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